



What to Expect – 2D Echocardiogram with or without Doppler and Colorflow

An echocardiogram is an ultrasound or sound wave test of the heart. It is used to evaluate the size, thickness, and pumping action of the heart. It can also help evaluate murmurs, valve problems, or fluid around the heart.

The test is noninvasive, which means no needles, catheters, or dyes are used. Ultrasound is used to create a picture of the heart, including the blood vessels, valves, atria and ventricles. Gel is placed on the skin over the area to be studied. An instrument, called a transducer, is placed on your skin. Sound waves are transmitted from the transducer. The sound waves reflect off the tissues and organs to create a picture that can be seen on a screen. Blood flow through the blood vessels can be heard as the test is being completed.

Patient Instructions:

1. No smoking 24 hours prior to the test.
2. No caffeine 24 hours prior to the test.
3. Wear two-piece clothing.
4. Allow approximately 1 hour.
5. Your physician will be notified of the results.

If you need to reschedule the test or have any questions regarding these instructions, please call our office at 616-717-5141.

