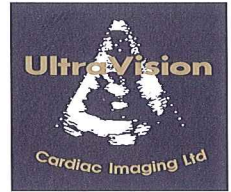


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ECHOCARDIOGRAM

Ultrasound scan of the heart

What is an Echocardiogram?

An echocardiogram (echo) is an ultrasound of the heart. It enables the cardiologist to look at the pumping chambers and valves of your heart and to look for any heart abnormalities.

What preparation is required?

No special preparation is required. It doesn't matter if you have just had something to eat or drink and you can continue to take your usual medication.

How is the procedure performed and who performs it?

You will be asked to lie flat on an examination couch. Water based gel is applied to the area to be examined and a small ultrasound probe is then placed on the skin and moved slowly and painlessly over the area. The images are displayed on a screen and are stored for later analysis. The ultrasound is performed by either a cardiac ultrasonographer, cardiologist or radiologist. It will take between 30 and 60 minutes for the average examination, although more complicated problems may take a little longer.

What is the cost of the procedure?

You will be advised of the cost of the procedure and where to park when you make your appointment.

How do I get my results?

A report will be sent to your cardiologist and/or GP within 5-7 days of having the procedure.

Where do I go to have this procedure?

- Ultravision Rooms, Gate 1, Mercy Hospital, 98 Mountain Road, Epsom
- Ultravision Cardiac Imaging, 1 Shea Terrace, Takapuna
- Botany Junction Medical, 110 Michael Jones Drive, Flat Bush, Manukau

For further information refer www.heartgroup.co.nz or phone 09 623 6377