

## ECHOCARDIOGRAM



### **Definition:**

Similar to the monograms used during pregnancy, an echocardiogram uses a probe gently moved across the chest. This probe emits sound waves which are converted into moving images of the heart. These images are displayed on a screen and will be recorded on a hard drive and disk. This test allows our doctor's to learn how the heart functions at rest. It provides valuable information about the structure, size, and how well your heart is pumping.

### **Before The Test:**

- You should allow one hour which includes preparation and the imaging portion.
- Wear comfortable attire as you will be laying on an exam table, while the sonographer obtains your images.
- There are no dietary restrictions for this test.

### **During The Test:**

- You will be asked to lie on an examination table. To improve the quality of the pictures, a colorless gel is applied to the area of the chest where the transducer will be placed.
- We will apply electrodes (small sticky patches) to your chest, so we can record the electrical activity of your heart. This is called an EKG.
- The sonographer moves the transducer to various places over the left side of your chest. Pictures of your heart at rest are recorded on a hard drive and disk.

### **After The Test:**

- A written report will be sent to your referring physician.

- Information gained from this test helps your doctor make an accurate diagnosis and develop a treatment plan that is best for you.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call our staff at **951.352.3937** or **951.369.3525**.  
Thank you for choosing Cardiology Specialists Medical Group!

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