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QueenslandNuclearImaging

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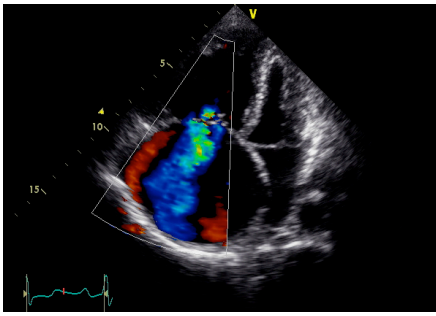
How echocardiography can help patients

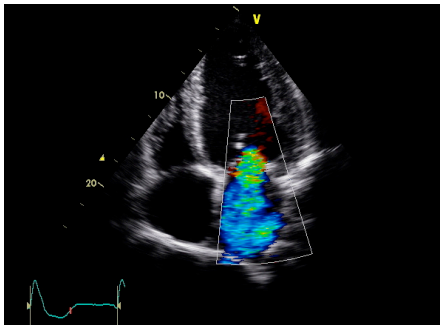
Echocardiography is a non-invasive diagnostic test that uses ultrasound waves to create an image of the heart muscle. It is one of the most widely used and cost effective diagnostic tests for heart disease.



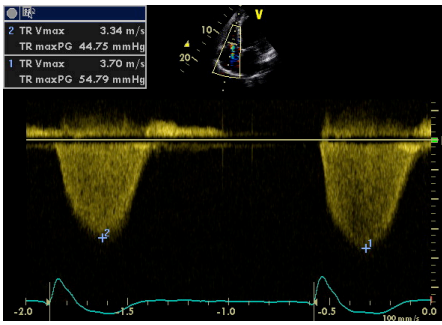
It provides specific information about the size and shape of the heart, its pumping function, and the heart valves. By assessing the motion of the heart walls, echocardiography can help detect the presence and assess the severity of coronary artery disease. It is also particularly useful for assessing disease of the heart valves, detecting abnormalities in blood flow such as stenosis or regurgitation, and helping to quantify intra-cardiac pressures.

Indications for echocardiography would include:

- shortness of breath or dysponea on exertion
- palpitations or arrhythmia
- presence of a heart murmur
- chest pain or angina
- previous myocardial infarction or family history of IHD
- hypertension
- familial disorders
- congenital heart defects



Echocardiography is a safe procedure and no special precautions/preparations are required. The examination will take 30 – 45 minutes. The patient will be asked to remove clothing from their chest (a gown will be provided for female patients) and lay on the bed on their left hand side. ECG leads will be attached to their chest and a special conducting gel will be placed on the chest to provide optimal images with the imaging transducer.



At the commencement of the test the images and measurements are collated and a comprehensive report is completed by the consultant cardiologist, and sent back to the referring doctor.

Queensland Nuclear Imaging provides a comprehensive physician supervised echocardiography service with high quality diagnostic equipment, experienced sonographers and a specialist consultant cardiologist.

Appointments Phone - 3139 4010

Ground Floor, Private Practice Clinic, The Prince Charles Hospital 627 Rode Road, Chermside.

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