

# Care Gram

## Echocardiogram

**Date of Test:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Test Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **What Is an Echocardiogram?**

An echocardiogram is an ultrasound of the heart done by using sound waves without exposure to radiation. The doctor can look at the functions of the heart muscles and the valves. This test is also referred to as an echo.

The test usually takes 30 to 45 minutes.

### **How Do I Prepare for this Test?**

No preparation is required for this test. You may eat normally and continue taking your medications.

### **How Do I Register for an Echocardiogram?**

Please report directly to the Cardiology Department at your appointment time. It is located on the Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) Second Floor.

### **What Can I Expect During an Echocardiogram?**

- You will be asked to remove your shirt or blouse and put on a hospital gown.
- You will then lie down on your left side.
- A small handheld device called a transducer is passed over your chest to take pictures of your heart. There is gel on the transducer to help with this process.
- Your heart rate and rhythm will be monitored during this time.
- If needed, an IV will be started. You will receive an imaging enhancing agent called Definity to help obtain better pictures of your heart.

### **What Should I Do After the Test?**

You may drive yourself home and return to your normal activities the same day.

### **How Do I Obtain My Results?**

You will find out the results from the doctor who ordered the test.

### **Appointment Reminder**

Thank you for allowing the Cardiology staff at Licking Memorial Hospital to serve you. Remember, you have an important role in making your test a success. If you have any questions about your test, please call (220) 564-4177.

This Care Gram is for information purposes only. It may become out-of-date over time. Ask a doctor or a healthcare professional about your specific condition.



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1616-0533  
06/21/2022