

**Echocardiogram Testing**

**An echocardiogram (Echo) is a graphic outline of the heart’s movement. During an echo test, ultrasound (high-frequency sound waves) from a hand held wand placed on your chest provide pictures of the heart’s valves and chambers and help the technician evaluate the pumping action of the heart.**

**Why would I be a candidate for an Echocardiogram ?**

 **~ To assess the overall function of your heart ~**

 **~ To determine the presence of many types of heart disease, pericardial disease, infective endocarditis, cardiac masses and congenital heart disease ~**

 **~ Follow the progress of valve disease over time ~**

 **~ Evaluate the effectiveness of your medical or surgical treatments ~**

 **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Question: Is there a special diet I should follow on the day of my test ?**

**Answer: No special diet is needed. Eat and drink as you normally would.**

**Question: Should I take my medications the day of the test ?**

**Answer: Please take all of your medications at the usual times.**

**Question: What should I wear on the day of the test ?**

**Answer: You may wear anything you would like. You will be asked to remove your clothing from the waist up. You will be given a paper vest to change into before your echo begins. If you would like an actual hospital gown, please ask for one from the technician.**

**Question: What happens during the test ?**

**Answer: The technician will place a wand (called a sound wave transducer) on several areas of your chest. The wand will have a small amount of gel on the end, which will not harm your skin. The gel helps to produce clearer pictures. You may be asked to change positions several times during the exam so the technician can take pictures of different areas of the heart. You may also be asked to hold your breath at times.**

**Question: How will I feel during the test ?**

**Answer: You should feel no major discomfort during the test. You may feel a coolness on your skin from the gel on the wand, and a slight pressure of the wand on your chest.**

**Question: How long does the test take ?**

**Answer: The appointment typically lasts 25-30 minutes. After the test, you may get dressed and resume any normal activities.**

**Question: How do I get the results of my test ?**

**Answer: After a cardiologist has reviewed your test, the results will then be forwarded back to the ordering physician. Any result will then be called to you by the ordering physician. This may result in an appointment to further discuss results and/or methods of treatment.**

**\*\* This information is not intended to replace the medical advice of your healthcare provider. Please consult your healthcare provider for advice about any medical concerns you might be having \*\***

**Dr. Annu Mohan, M.D.**

**Carrie White P.A.-C**

**Rosewood Health Care**

**2480 Rosewood Drive**

**Mount Pleasant, MI 48858**

**(989) 775-3823**

**www.rosewoodhc.com**