

To the patient:

Your doctor has requested that an Echocardiogram with Doppler be performed on you. This is a non-invasive test that utilizes high frequency sound waves to record moving two-dimensional pictures of your heart on video tape. Because sound waves are used, there is no exposure to radiation or magnetic fields. There is no special preparation for this test, therefore you can eat and drink up to the time the test is performed. This test allows your physician to evaluate the size of your heart chamber, the function of your heart valves, and how well the walls of your heart are moving. This test is performed with the patient lying on their left side to help optimize the quality of the pictures acquired. The test is relatively painless and takes approximately 15-30 minutes, with the results immediately available to your physician.