

### **WHAT IS ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY?**

Echocardiography, or Echo, uses ultrasound (sound waves) to image the structure and function of your heart.

Three sticky pads may be attached during the test in order to monitor heart rate and rhythm.

A water based jelly is put on to the end of a small probe which is placed on your chest in different positions to image the heart from different angles.

You may be asked to turn onto your left side during the test in order to produce a clearer image.

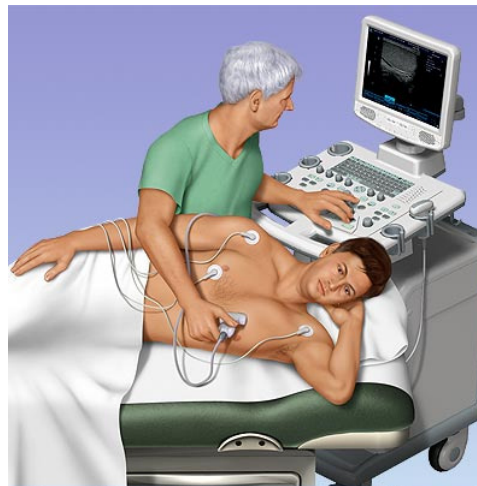
You may hear sounds coming from the Echo machine during the test, these represent the movement of blood in your heart.

### **DOES IT HURT?**

No, the test does not hurt and does not use radioactivity.

### **WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?**

There are no specific clothing requirements for this test. You will be given a gown and asked to undress to the waist. For this reason it would be easier to maintain modesty by avoiding a dress or all-in-one. Please leave the gown open at the front. We will ensure you stay covered up as much as possible.



### **HOW LONG WILL THE TEST TAKE?**

Depending on how detailed the scan required is, the test should take approximately 10-30 minutes.

### **DO I NEED TO STOP TAKING MY MEDICATION?**

No, please continue taking your medications as per your Doctors instruction.

### **CAN I CARRY OUT MY NORMAL ACTIVITIES?**

There are no restrictions to activity after the test.

### **WILL I BE GIVEN THE RESULTS?**

The physiologist is unable to give you any report at this stage as your Echo report has to be reviewed by a Doctor.

The results are entered in your case notes for your next out-patient appointment. If there is anything that requires urgent attention, your doctor is made aware immediately.

### WHAT IF THE APPOINTMENT IS NOT CONVENIENT?

If your appointment is not suitable please let us know by phoning the East Midlands Congenital Heart Centre between 08:30 and 16:00 Mon – Fri and we will do our best to rearrange.

### Direct Dial Numbers:

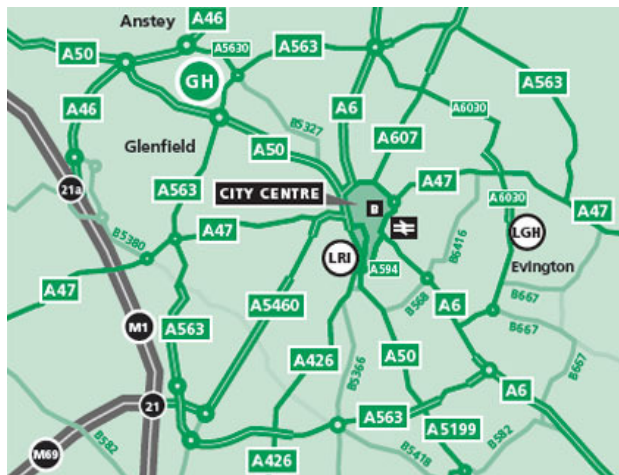
Reception Desk: 0116 256 3926

### CORRESPONDENCE

Cardiac Physiologist,  
East Midlands Congenital Heart Centre,  
Glenfield Hospital,  
Groby Road,  
Leicester,  
LE3 9QP

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### HOW DO I FIND THE HOSPITAL?



The Glenfield Hospital is situated 6 miles South East of M1 Junction 22 and 2 ½ miles North West of Leicester city centre on A50.

Access directly from roundabout.

### HOW DO I FIND THE DEPARTMENT?

The department is situated on the first floor of the hospital next to Ward 30. Access is easiest via the South Entrance, but can be accessed from Main Entrance. Please follow the signs for the East Midlands Congenital Department.

University Hospitals of Leicester  
NHS Trust



## East Midlands Congenital Heart Centre

Echocardiography



Tel: 0116 256 3926