

## ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY

Echocardiography uses ultrasound to evaluate the heart's muscle, valves, and function.

Echocardiography is only offered in our Red Deer location.

**Covered by Alberta Health Care**

**Referrals are necessary for all bookings**

**Exam Duration:** 45 - 60min

## PATIENT PREPARATION

- ✓ Dress comfortably, with loose easy to remove clothing.
- ✓ You may eat and take medications as usual prior to your exam.

## WHAT TO EXPECT DURING YOUR EXAM:

- ✓ Once you have checked in at the front desk, you'll be taken back to change.
- ✓ You will be given a gown and asked to disrobe from the waist up.
- ✓ Your weight and height will be taken prior to your exam.
- ✓ Once on the ultrasound bed, your blood pressure will be taken and adhesive electrodes applied to your chest to monitor and record electrocardiogram (ECG) signals.
- ✓ The exam is done with you laying on your left side. The sonographer (ultrasound technologist) will put a small amount of ultrasound gel on your chest and then use an ultrasound transducer (probe) to acquire still and moving images of your heart. In order to obtain good quality images, it is necessary to apply some pressure to your chest with the probe.
- ✓ You will hear sounds when the sonographer activates the Doppler portion of the study.
- ✓ Images of your heart will be recorded and various measurements taken.
- ✓ The data will be reviewed by a radiologist after the exam is completed.

## AFTER YOUR EXAM:

- ✓ You will be free to go.

CAMIS strives to have the results sent to your referring doctor **within 24 hours**. Sometimes exams require consultation which can delay reporting. If your doctor has **not received results in 7 days**, please email [connect@camiscare.ca](mailto:connect@camiscare.ca) with the concern and include your Alberta Health Care number. An administrator will determine the cause of the delay and respond to you.

**CARE YOU DESERVE, RESULTS YOU TRUST.**

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