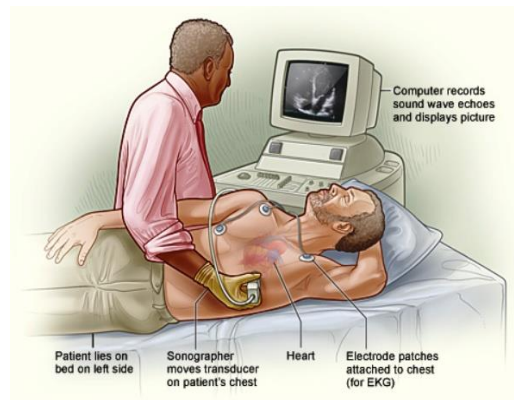


## What is ECHO ?

- An echocardiogram (ECHO) is a test that uses **high frequency sound waves** (ultrasound) to generate images of the **heart**. The test is also called **echocardiography** or **cardiac ultrasound**.
- It is performed by the Cardiovascular Technologist or the Cardiologist.



## Why is it done?

Doctor use an ECHO test to look:

- The **size** and **shape** of the **heart**.
- The **heart pumping** action.
- The **heart valves** and **chambers**

## Preparing for your ECHO

- You will be asked to remove / loosen your clothing.
- You will then lie down on your left side.
- Electrodes (small pads) are placed on your chest.
- You will be in the dark room, in order to view your **heart image** on the ECHO monitor.
- Gel will be applied on your skin for to transmit images of your **heart** to the ECHO monitor. You may feel slightly cold when the gel is applied on your skin.

## During ECHO

- You may need to move to certain positions and hold your breath briefly for the technician or Cardiologist to get better images.
- The images on the ECHO monitor are recorded.
- The procedure will take approximately 5 to 15 minutes.

## Does it hurt?

An ECHO does not hurt and has no side effects.

## What happen after ECHO?

- Doctor will discuss the ECHO results with you.
- If there are any abnormalities then the doctor may suggest some other tests for your heart.

