

CARDIAC TESTING



Lifespan Cardiovascular Institute

**Rhode Island Hospital • The Miriam Hospital
Newport Hospital**

Delivering health with care.®

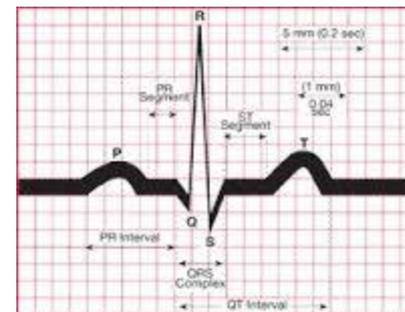
The Center for Cardiac fitness

Cardiac Rehab program

The Miriam Hospital

EKG

- Electrical activity of the heart
- Rate rhythm
- Looks at changes – heart attack rate too fast, too slow, irregular



Why do an EKG

Symptoms of

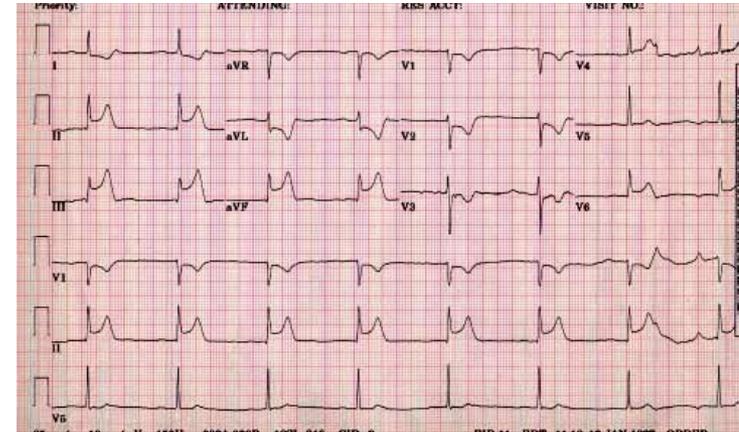
Chest pain

Palpitations

shortness of breath

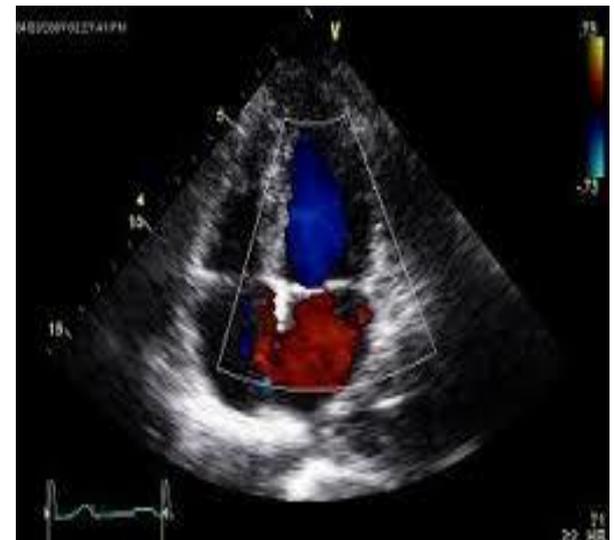
Fatigue, weak

Unusual heart sounds during exam by MD



ECHOCARDIOGRAM

- Non-invasive using transducer (sound waves)
- Looks at heart's chambers and valves
- Size and shape of heart
- Pumping action/EF
- Wall motion abnormalities



STRESS TESTING

- -provides information on how the heart performs under stress
- Uses 12 lead EKG with exercise
- Monitor vitals signs such as HR, rhythm, BP
- Look for changes in EKG (ischemia)
- Does patient have symptoms such as:
- Chest pain, discomfort, dizziness, shortness of breath
- Does the patient have orthopedic limitations
- Looks at functional capacity

STRESS ECHOCARDIOGRAM

- Stress test + echocardiogram
- Looks at pictures of echocardiogram at rest vs pictures w/ activity
- NUCLEAR STRESS TEST
- Radioactive dye injected into bloodstream at peak exercise – looks at rest vs exercise
- DOBUTAMINE or NON-EXERCISE TEST
- Why would someone have this type of test

HOLTER/EVENT MONITOR

- Records electrical activity 24-48 hours
- Used to detect arrhythmias

- EVENT MONITOR
- Does not continuously record
- Start the monitor when symptoms occur – see if symptoms match up with changes in EKG
- Used for patients who have symptoms of dizziness, palpitations, lightheadedness, fluttering