

## Cardiovascular Investigation Unit: Frequently Asked Questions

### How to get to Cardiovascular Investigation Unit?

The Cardiovascular Investigation Unit is located at St. Joseph's Hospital, 268 Grosvenor Street Room B3-030 (Central Registration Desk)

- [get contact information for the Cardiovascular Investigation Unit](#)
- [detailed, printable turn-by-turn directions to the Cardiovascular Investigation Unit](#)

### What is the difference between an electrocardiogram (ECG) and an Echocardiogram (Echo)?

An ECG records the electrical activity of the heart. It looks at the heart rate and rhythm. An echocardiogram is an ultrasound scan of the heart. It provides information about the function (pumping action), valves and blood flow within the heart.

### How long is the test I am coming for?

Electrocardiogram: 15 minutes

Echocardiogram: 45 - 60 minutes

Holter monitor hook up: 15-20 minutes

Exercise stress test: 30 minutes

(all times are approximations)

### Are there any restrictions for the tests?

No, unless specified by your doctor eg. to not take a specific medication for an exercise stress test. Make sure you eat normally and wear comfortable clothes.

### Who performs the tests?

All tests are performed by registered technicians and technologists.

### How long will it take before my doctor gets the report?

For inpatients, within 24 hrs. For outpatients, 3-7 working days. Urgent reports are sent as soon as possible.