

Outpatient Department
Egerton Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU2 7XX

Tel: 01483 571122

Mr Frank O'Gorman
6 Eddeys Lane
Headley Down
Bordon
Hampshire
GU35 8HU

12 February 2019

NHS Number: 442 154 0366
Hospital No: X1139520

Dear Mr O'Gorman,

We are pleased to confirm your appointment as follows:

Date/Time: **Wednesday 27 February 2019 at 10:15**
With: **Cardiac Technician of Cardiology Technicians**
Location: **Outpatients 5 / HASTE**

You may not always be seen by Cardiac Technician; however, a member of their team will be available to see you. **If this is your first appointment, this appointment is for consultation only or diagnostic tests.** Please bring a list or samples of any prescribed medication to your appointment.

You may receive an appointment reminder to your telephone or a text up to seven days prior to your appointment. Please telephone 01483 464002 if you wish to opt out of this service.

If you need to reschedule or cancel your appointment:

Please contact our Appointments Team so that your appointment may be offered to another patient.

☎ **01483 464002** Monday to Friday 08:30 to 17:30

📧 rsc-tr.opdapptcentre@nhs.net / www.royalsurrey.nhs.uk

The Echo department is located in Outpatients 5/Haste Wing. The Echocardiogram is a cardiac ultrasound scan and will usually take between 10 and 40 minutes to perform. It is helpful if a relative or friend can accompany disabled or elderly patients on their visit.

What is an echocardiogram?

An echocardiogram is an ultrasound scan of the heart. It is sometimes just called an 'Echo'. Ultrasound is a very high frequency sound that you cannot hear, but it can be emitted and detected by special machines. The scan can give accurate pictures of the heart muscle, the heart chambers and structures within the heart such as the valves.

What happens during the test?

You will need to undress to the waist and lie on a couch. You will be attached to an ECG via 3 sticky pads, and then a probe and some lubricating jelly are placed on your chest. The operator moves the probe around over the skin surface to get views from different angles. Pulses of ultrasound are sent from the probe through the skin towards your heart. The

ultrasound waves then echo ('bounce back') from the heart and various structures in the heart. You will be aware of some 'sound effects' whilst the operator is measuring blood flow in the heart.

The test is painless and takes between 10 and 30 minutes. You may have to turn on your side during the test so the operator can scan the heart from different angles.

You do not need any special preparation before the test. You eat and drink normally before and after the test. Continue to take your usual medication. Please wear easy to remove, loose fitting clothing as you will need to undress to the waist.

What happens afterwards?

The operator has to analyse the recorded images and then write a technical report which is then passed onto a consultant for interpretation. Your GP will receive a copy of the report.

On arrival please hand in the pre-registration form accompanying this letter to the Clinic Receptionist with any amendments made (i.e. change of address or GP). The Trust has pay on exit alongside a pay and display system that accepts payment by coins, debit/credit cards or via 'Waytopark' mobile application. There are car parking facilities for disabled drivers near all hospital entrances.

Please note: The Trust aims to see and treat as many of its patients as possible within the national 18 weeks guidelines. Our Policy is that if you request to cancel or reschedule your appointment more than once, the Outpatient Appointment Centre will not be able to automatically arrange a new date and you may be discharged back to your GP. Further information is available at http://www.royalsurrey.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Access-Policy_Nov_2015_Final.pdf

We look forward to welcoming you to the hospital.

Yours sincerely,

Appointments Team