

ECG

WHAT IS IT?

An ECG is an Electrocardiogram. The electrocardiograph is a machine with a base with lead wires that attach to electrodes. These electrodes are placed on the chest, ankles and arms in specific order. The ECG monitors the electrical activity in the heart.

WHY IS THIS TEST PERFORMED?

This test is performed to view the baseline electrical activity in the heart. It can also be used to determine if there is deficiency in oxygen supply to the heart and / or irregular heart rhythm.

HOW IS THIS TEST PERFORMED?

The patient is required to remove his/her shirt and socks. The skin will be prepped with alcohol to clean the required areas. The chest hair may need to be removed to apply the electrodes to the chest. The electrodes will be applied to the chest, arms and ankles. The technician will view the waveforms on the ECG and print the tracing for the physician.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE TEST

Please refrain from applying cream or powder to the chest, upper arms or ankles.