Cardiology Department

GP DIRECT ACCESS ECHOCARDIOLOGY SERVICE
THIS SERVICE FOR ONLY PATIENTS AGED 16 YRS AND OVER

Referral Criteria
- Asymptomatic murmurs.
- Follow up of known mild valve abnormalities.
- Atrial fibrillation to evaluate thrombo-embolic risk and evaluate left ventricular function.
- Hypertension to evaluate possible hypertrophy.
- Exclusion of Cardiomyopathy.

GP request +/- agreement to book follow-up at Croydon University Hospital only of clinically indicated.
Fax to Cardiology department on 020 8401 3022

Received at Croydon University Hospital, booked appointment within 6 weeks

Normal or mild abnormality
- Report to GP within 1 week

Moderate abnormality
- Report to GP within 1 week

Severe abnormality
- Report to GP within 1 week. Patient booked into Cardiology clinic at CUH

Severe abnormality and clinically unstable
- Seen by appropriate cardiology clinician and admitted. Report to GP within 1 week.

Patients in the following situations are unlikely to be suitable for DA echo referral:

1. Clinical suspicion of heart failure (Heart failure pathway)
2. Clinical suspicion of endocarditis (Outpatient Cardiology referral)
3. Sign or symptoms of significant valve disease (Outpatient Cardiology referral)

Governance Pathway
- Patients with suspected heart failure should be investigated with BNP using the existing Heart Failure Pathway and One Stop Heart Failure Clinic at CUH.
- Patients with severe abnormalities on echo will be booked directly into a cardiology clinic to be seen by the appropriate acute cardiology service at CUH.

Clinical Governance leads
For further information, please contact Amanda Rose, Lead Cardiac Physiologist on Amanda.rose@croydonhealth.nhs.uk or Dr Asif Qasim, Lead Consultant Cardiologist asif.qasim@croydonhealth.nhs.uk