

An electrocardiogram (ECG) is a simple test that can be used to check your heart's rhythm and electrical activity. Sensors attached to the skin are used to detect the electrical signals produced by your heart each time it beats.

An ECG is a quick, safe and painless test. No electricity is put into your body while it is carried out.

Testing Locations

ECG's are only available at selected patient centres.
Please phone 8222 3000 for locations.

Preparing for your ECG

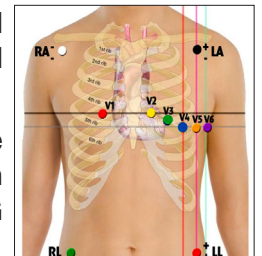
- Allow 10-20 minutes for this test.
- Wear suitable clothing:
 - a two piece outfit i.e. a shirt/top with pants, skirt or shorts. Avoid dresses.
 - wear bottoms that undo or roll down easily, staff will need to place a sticky dot near each of your hip bones.
 - bras that contain an underwire can affect the ECG reading, wear a sports type bra without an underwire.
- Staff will provide you with a gown or blanket to drape over you for comfort.
- We recommend that you bring a support person or chaperone to be present during the ECG for your comfort.

Your results

Your ECG recording will be sent electronically to your requesting doctor.

The ECG Procedure

- Staff will ask you to remove:
 - any electronic devices, heavy jewellery, watches etc.
 - your shirt/top.
 - your bra if it has an underwire.
- Sticky dots will be placed on your shoulders, hips and chest.
- Several leads will be attached to the dots which will be connected to the ECG machine.
- You will be required to keep still and quiet for a few minutes while the machine reads an accurate trace.
- When the procedure is complete, staff will detach the leads and remove the dots. The sticky dots may leave a residue on the skin, this can easily be wiped off. You can then get dressed.
- There may be some slight discomfort when the electrodes are removed from your skin and some people may develop a mild rash where the electrodes were attached.



Consent

I, _____ acknowledge the procedure and recommendations outlined above with the understanding that I may be asked to remove my top (and bra if applicable) for this test to be performed. I understand that SA Pathology staff will be required to place several dots on my chest and hips and that my privacy and dignity will be maintained within the parameters of performing this test. I give consent for this ECG to be performed by the staff member on site.

Patient signature _____ Date _____

Staff signature _____ Date _____