

In the last few months, the volume of echocardiograms has gone up substantially, and a sonographer may not be immediately available during all times of the day. In an effort to stream line the logistics of obtaining echoes in the CICU, the following changes have been instituted.

A.M Echoes:

1. The CCU fellow will place a list of echo requests prior to 8 am in order of priority on the CICU IE-33 for the AM sonographer. If the priority changes, the CCU fellow should contact the sonographer about the changes.
2. Any echoes performed overnight should be noted on the list of echo requests.
3. **An appropriate single order needs to be placed for all echoes.**
4. When all the morning CICU echoes have been performed, the sonographer will check with the fellow and/or Cha Roberts to determine if there are any additional echoes that are needed.

Afternoon Echoes:

1. If an urgent echo is needed in the CICU (until 4:00 pm), the sonographer in charge should be the initial sonographer contacted. They can be reached via Vocera (dial 6-2390 and say their name from the schedule). The sonographer in charge will then check on the availability of the stat sonographer, and then call the CICU fellow back to let them know about availability and timing.
2. If an order for an urgent/emergency (stat) echo is placed and the fellow decides to perform the echo, they should inform the sonographer in charge so that another sonographer does not come up to do the study.
3. If available, an IE-33 will be placed in the CICU during the day (although this will not always be possible). However, a CX-50 is always present in the CICU. A quick guide to the CX-50 is now available on the fellows website, and will be attached to the CX-50 machine.
4. When performing a study, the fellow (or sonographer) may contact the Reading Attending, who has the ability to over-read the study at the time it is being performed.
5. The late sonographer is available until 6:00 pm to perform studies. After 6.00 pm, the on call fellow is responsible for stat echoes. Any questions regarding priorities of studies should be addressed by the Reading Attending.

6. The sonographer schedule for each month with the Echo Attending schedule will be posted in the cubby where the IE-33 is kept.

Evening Echoes:

1. For semi-urgent or non-urgent echoes, the Night Float fellow should establish the urgency of the study to determine if it should be done during the night, or done the next morning.
2. The fellow is responsible for entering a preliminary report at the completion of the study. You also need to put the prelim report in cerner for the referring team or CCU team, the easiest way is to copy the report from xcelera and paste it in a note in cerner (but mention that it is a preliminary report pending attending review and that the final report can be found in cerner under results)
3. The fellow should make sure an appropriate request is entered, and that it is noted in capital letters the fellow has completed the study. This will decrease the likelihood a sonographer will inadvertently repeat the study the next day. The fellow may enter this order if it has not been placed already by the requesting team.
4. The attending to review the echo is from the day before, not the attending coming on that day.
5. There is an echo reading station on 10C near the call room, the code is 2,3,4. Ask the daytime CCU fellow to show you if you don't know where it is. This way you can read the echo's without having to go all the way to the heart station.

General Information

1. For reference, the monthly echo schedule (CCH, stat, late sonographer, echo attending) is placed in the cubby where the IE-33 is located
2. To try to improve feedback, if the fellow has entered a preliminary report the Echo Attending will place the preliminary report and the final report in the fellow's box so the fellow can review any significant changes in the final report.
3. All studies performed in CCH, if the downloading cable is hooked up, will download within a few seconds. This means that the study can be reviewed by the Echo Attending at the time it is being performed with just a 1-2 minute delay. If an immediate read is required while the study is being performed, the fellow performing the study can contact the Echo Attending to ask what additional views may be necessary.