

March 22, 2013

Dear Physician,

Lexington Clinic's echocardiography laboratory is accredited by the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC). IAC Standards for echocardiography accreditation provide guidelines related to all aspects of the facility and must be renewed every three years. Accreditation allows for ongoing self-assessment and demonstrates a commitment to quality patient care in compliance with nationally established, published standards referred to as appropriate use criteria (AUC).

AUC are written to define when and how often to do a given procedure in the context of scientific evidence, healthcare environment, the patient's profile, and physician's judgment while providing patients with quality, appropriate care. Lexington Clinic's echocardiography program is based upon the AUC published by the American College of Cardiology and the American Society of Echocardiography.

Measurement of the appropriate use of diagnostic testing in our facility is required as part of our patient care quality improvement program. Compliance requires data collection which will allow us to assess patterns of care and understand and improve the rate of clinically appropriate imaging. More information regarding AUC for echocardiography can be found online at the American College of Cardiology ([www.acc.org](http://www.acc.org)) and the American Society of Echocardiography ([www.asecho.org](http://www.asecho.org)).

Thank you for allowing us to participate in the care of your patients by providing high quality echocardiography examinations and interpretations.

Sincerely,

Lexington Clinic cardiologists