

RHD CONTROL PROGRAMS QLD, NT, SA, WA

Echocardiogram and Photo Consent Form

Rheumatic fever is a sickness caused by a germ called Group A Streptococcus or Strep for short and can often cause sore throats and skin sores. If not treated with penicillin, the body's germ defence system can get confused and attack your joints, heart, brain, and skin – This is called rheumatic fever.

Rheumatic fever can damage the valves inside your **heart** making them leak or not open properly – this is called rheumatic heart disease.

Your child will be offered a special heart scan called an echocardiogram (echo) to check their heart for rheumatic heart disease. We will also offer to check your child's skin for skin infections.

To check for rheumatic heart disease it is a quick and painless test.

- Gel will be placed on the chest of your child and an echo probe will take a picture of their heart
- If the echo is normal no further follow-up will be needed
- If the echo is not normal, the Doctor will talk to the parents and the child on the same day

