

Memorial Hospital Echocardiography Laboratory Receives Accreditation

The echocardiography laboratory at Memorial Hospital and Manor was granted accreditation in adult echocardiography by the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories, ICAEL. The laboratory is one of the first one thousand echocardiography laboratories in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico to be so recognized for its commitment to high quality patient care and its provision of quality diagnostic testing.

"The purpose of the accreditation is to establish a standard for clinical echocardiography through inclusive and detailed requirements," said Gordon Miller, M.D., Cardiologist Director of the echocardiography laboratory at Memorial Hospital and Manor.

"Accreditation status recognizes the laboratory's commitment to quality testing for the diagnosis of heart disease."

According to ICAEL, one American dies every 32 seconds of cardiovascular disease, disorders of the heart and blood vessels. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the United States. Cardiac structure and flow information provided by echocardiographic testing is useful in the detection and management of many types of heart disease. This noninvasive test has become one of the standard diagnostic tools in cardiology with an estimated 10 million echocardiograms performed annually in the United States. Echocardiography is a complex imaging technique that relies on the experience and training of both the physician and sonographer. Their interpretive and technical abilities determine the diagnostic accuracy of an echocardiographic examination. ICAEL developed the accreditation program which evaluates the quality of these and other critical elements of an echocardiography laboratory. Participation in the accreditation process is voluntary.