

## APPENDIX 5: Indications for repeat echocardiograms in patients with cardiac pathology

- a) There is evidence and/or agreement that repeat echocardiograms (generally annually) are **useful and effective** in patients with:
- known valvular stenosis of any severity and changing clinical status
  - asymptomatic but significant valvular stenosis and regurgitation
  - known valvular regurgitation and changing symptoms
  - left-ventricular dilatation/systolic dysfunction
  - symptomatic valvular regurgitation
  - moderate mitral or aortic regurgitation without chamber dilatation/dysfunction
- b) The usefulness and efficacy of repeat echocardiograms are **less well established** in patients with:
- known hemodynamically significant congenital heart disease *without* evident change in clinical condition (recommended testing interval: every 1 or 2 years)
- c) There is evidence and/or agreement that repeat echocardiograms are **not useful or effective** in patients with:
- known hemodynamically insignificant lesions (e.g., small atrial or ventricular septal defect) without a change in clinical condition
  - trivial or mild valvular regurgitation accompanied by normal left-ventricular size and function
  - echocardiographically evident mitral valve prolapse with trivial or mild regurgitation
  - repaired patent ductus arteriosus, atrial septal defect, ventricular septal defect, coarctation of the aorta, or bicuspid aortic valve without change in clinical condition

### **Adapted from:**

Sanfilippo AJ, Bewick D, Chan KL, Cujec B, Dumesnil JG, honos G et al. Guidelines for the provision of echocardiography in Canada: recommendations of a joint Canadian Cardiovascular Society/Canadian Society of Echocardiography Consensus Panel. *Can J Cardiol* 2005; 21(9):763-780 PM:16082436

Joint ACC/AHAS/ASE committee. Guideline update for the clinical application of echocardiography. American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Practical Guidelines 2003 Available from:

URL:[http://www.guideline.gov/summary/summary.aspx?ss=15&doc\\_id=4020&nbr=3138GAC](http://www.guideline.gov/summary/summary.aspx?ss=15&doc_id=4020&nbr=3138GAC). Echocardiography Other Conditions. Guidelines Advisory Committee (Canada) [ 2002 Available from: URL:[http://www.gacguidelines.ca/index.cfm?ACT=topics&Summary\\_ID=143&Topic\\_ID=73](http://www.gacguidelines.ca/index.cfm?ACT=topics&Summary_ID=143&Topic_ID=73)

