



Commonly Asked Questions About EKG Screening

1. If my child's EKG is within normal limits does this mean that they have a healthy heart?

An EKG can detect only 40% of those at risk for sudden cardiac death. There are some conditions that cannot be detected with an EKG. Until further testing is available this, coupled with a thorough medical history, is the best tool to detect those at risk. Fainting, dizziness with exercise, and the young death of relatives due to cardiac or unexplained causes are possible alerts to hidden cardiac disease. Unfortunately, many of those who die from sudden cardiac causes have no identifiable symptoms or family history.

2. If my child's EKG is within normal limits does it need to be repeated again in future years?

Current international recommendations are to repeat the EKG every other year through age 25.

3. Will my child's results be shared with the school?

Absolutely not. This is healthcare information that will only be shared with you. No information will be shared with anyone outside the YH4L program without your express written permission.

4. What does it mean if my child's screening EKG is outside normal limits and requires further investigation?

It may indicate the presence of a significant cardiac condition and requires further evaluation and testing by a physician.

5. If my child's EKG is outside normal limits, does that mean she or he has a life threatening condition?

Possibly. Your child will need to have further evaluation and testing. There is a 2% chance that your child's EKG will result in "false positive" findings. A false positive EKG indicates a defect may exist, but further testing shows there is no problem. We realize that this may cause anxiety, but believe that the benefit of this potentially life-saving screening outweighs this concern.

6. How soon should I have my child see a physician?

You should have your child examined by your family physician within two weeks of being notified that the results of the screening EKG were outside normal limits.

7. Will additional testing be needed?

Your child's physician will determine the need for further testing, consultation and treatment.