For further information contact:
Primary Care Cardiology Specialist Team
The Glen Primary Care Centre
Glen Street
Hebburn
NE31 1NU
Contact Number: 0191 283 1395
Mon - Fri 9am-5pm

NHS South of Tyne and Wear
(serving Gateshead Primary Care Trust,
South Tyneside Primary Care Trust and
Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust)
is committed to raising the standard of
written information for patients, their
carers, people who use the NHS and the
general public.

This information can be made available in
another format or language on request.
Please contact the Communications and
PR Team Tel: 0191 529 7118
Email: mopil@sotw.nhs.uk
What is the service?
We provide a service for people with symptoms of breathlessness.

Who would refer me to attend this clinic?
Your GP will refer you to this clinic.

Why have I been referred to this clinic?
To investigate your current symptoms of breathlessness.

Who will I see at the clinic?
You will be seen by a doctor and nurse who have undergone specialist training in cardiology.

Where is the clinic?
- The clinic is based at South Tyneside District Hospital, Cardiology Outpatient Department
- There are parking and disabled parking facilities within the hospital grounds
- Some car parking charges do apply

What will happen when I attend the clinic?
You will have an investigation called an **echocardiogram (echo)**.
An echo is a quick and painless test, which provides the doctor with important information on your heart. There are no risks associated with an echo.
You will be seen by the doctor, who will carry out a full assessment and discuss the outcome of your echocardiogram. The doctor will tell you why you are experiencing your symptoms.
Then you will be seen by the nurse who will discuss the outcome of the doctor's findings and advise you on any new medication prescribed by the doctor. The nurse will also talk about lifestyle changes that you can make to improve your condition.

How long will I be at the clinic?
- All our appointments are approximately one hour long
- Your consultation will take place in a private room
- A letter summarising your consultation will be sent to you and your GP
- We will keep your medical records securely

What will happen to me after I have attended the clinic?
This depends on the results of your test but you will be told your management plan before you leave the clinic. This will be one of the below:
- Referral to a consultant cardiologist
- Referral back to your own GP
- Further support from the nurse

If I have any questions before I attend the clinic who can I contact?
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