

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for your interest in the National Echo Database Australia (NEDA). We would like to invite your laboratory to participate in this important research. NEDA is the largest echo database of its kind in the world, and has the potential to answer many important research questions, based on information obtained from a standard echocardiogram and linked with mortality data. NEDA is an automated data collection process and aims to obtain data from each digital echo laboratory across Australia, combined together to create a single, very large, secure database for research purposes.

Analysis is only performed on de-identified data, and as a contributor you are welcome to become involved with the NEDA research community if you wish. The NEDA database will have its greatest application with widespread involvement, and we thank you in advance for your participation.

NEDA is acquiring standard echo data obtained as part of usual practice, and as such does not require you to change any part of your practice. There are no new or different procedures or patient interventions in NEDA. NEDA has already been approved by multiple ethics committees across Australia. If your laboratory requires specific HREC approval, we are happy to arrange it. If not, our University of Notre Dame HREC has already provided approval for private sites across Australia.

The enclosed information pack provides more details about NEDA, our research and how your lab can easily become involved in this ground-breaking study.

Thank you sincerely for your cooperation in this important research.

PROFESSOR DAVID PLAYFORD

(Chief Investigator)

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