



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **GHA ANNOUNCES NEW ECHOCARDIOGRAM SERVICE**

The GHA is pleased to announce the commencement of an Echocardiogram Service within St Bernard's Hospital. This specialist radiological investigation has hitherto been provided in Spain, with an average of 70 patients per month being sponsored to Algeciras and Benalmadena for this purpose.

The Minister for Health, Yvette Del Agua, has said: "since the opening of the new St Bernard's Hospital, the policy of my Government has been to repatriate to Gibraltar as many services as possible. The GHA now provides CT Scanning, Mammography, Ultrasound and Dialysis facilities in-house, as well as oncology clinics for ENT, gynaecology and bladder cancers.

Local echocardiogram testing, which will be provided by a visiting cardiologist, will again bring very important benefits to patients, including more timely access, faster diagnosis, improved clinical management of patients, and the obvious advantage of not having to travel abroad.

The next three initiatives will entail the local provision of a prostate cancer clinic which will provide biopsy and drug treatment services, a colorimetry service for patients with dyslexia, and the treatment of Macular Degeneration which is currently provided from Moorfields in London".