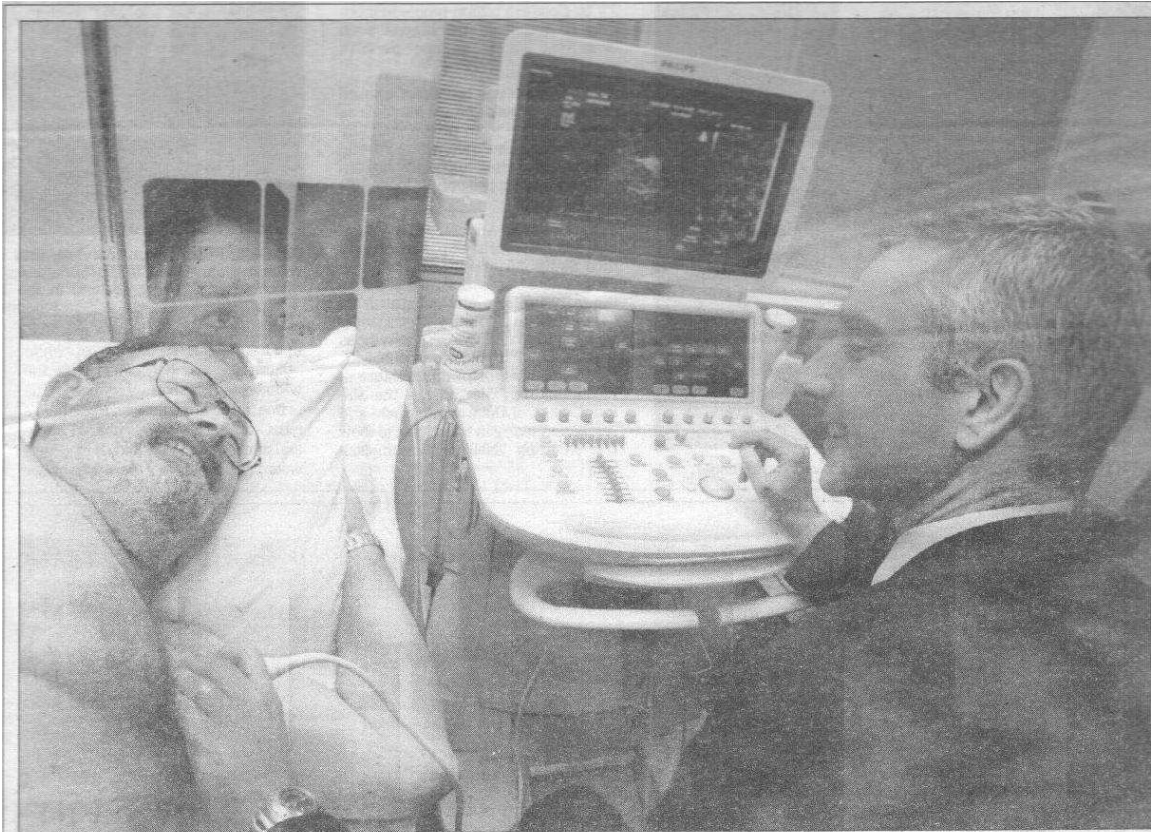


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QUALITY TREATMENT: Patient Jack Clear, 62, is scanned by Calvary cardiologist Warrick Bishop at the new state-of-the-art laboratory at the Calvary Cardiac Centre, following a \$1.4 million investment by Tasmania's largest private health care provider. Picture: ROGER LOVELL

\$1.4m gets heart care pumping

CALVARY Cardiac Centre at Lenah Valley now has the latest cardiology equipment after a \$1.4 million investment.

The equipment comprises a \$300,000 cardiogram which takes three dimensional ultrasound images of the heart and a \$1.1 million cardiac catheterisation laboratory.

A cardiologist at the centre, Warrick Bishop, said precise diagnosis was the key to accurate, quality cardiac treatment.

The new technology provided the

highest clarity of imaging which in turn improved decision making and safety for patients.

"This is the newest lab in Tasmania and the imaging on it is as good as anything in Australia at this stage," he said.

"It's like coming from a black and white television to a high definition colour plasma screen in terms of difference in clarity and ability to see what is going on and therefore treat appropriately."

The catheterisation laboratory

and equipment provide for diagnosis through an angiogram which is done by threading a small tube, or catheter, through an artery in the groin or arm to the beginning of the coronary arteries.

When the catheter is in place, X-ray dye is injected and moving pictures taken as the dye travels through the arteries of the heart.

The X-ray images allowed extremely accurate diagnoses of coronary artery disease which may lead to heart attack.

Damian Hiser, CEO of Calvary Health Care Tasmania, Tasmania's largest private health care provider, said Calvary was committed to Tasmania and to providing the latest in equipment and the best patient care available.

Its investment in this growing area of health care signified the standards to which Calvary held itself and its vision to provide quality, responsive and compassionate health services.