Elastography (also known as FibroScan®)

What is elastography?
Elastography is a safe and painless imaging test -- like an ultrasound of the belly -- that measures how stiff your liver is. A healthier liver is soft. Over time, hepatitis C may cause scarring of the liver, which can make it stiffer.

There are five levels (or stages) of scarring to the liver, called fibrosis stages. Elastography estimates your liver’s fibrosis stage.

- Stage 0: No scarring (healthiest stage)
- Stage 1: Small amount of scarring
- Stage 2: Moderate amount of scarring
- Stage 3: Large amount of scarring
- Stage 4: Advanced scarring of the liver, called cirrhosis (least healthy stage)

Why is elastography important?
Elastography is important because it allows your doctor to better understand the amount of scarring in your liver.

What is an elastography test like?
You will be called into a testing room and asked to lie on a table on your back.
1. The technician will put gel on the skin of your belly.
2. S/he will place the probe (like a small wand) on the skin of the right side of your belly.
3. The machine will send a vibration wave through your skin and liver to measure how soft or hard your liver is. You will only feel the gel and probe touching your belly.
4. You and your doctor will discuss your test results during your next visit.

Where do I get my test done?
Rhode Island Medical Imaging
Blackstone Center
Phone: 401-432-2400
6 Blackstone Valley Place
Building 5/Suite 506
Lincoln, RI 02865

Public Transportation (from Providence): Take bus 75 towards the Lincoln Mall and get off at Route 116 FS Blackstone Valley, or take bus 54 towards Woonsocket and get off at NS Wake Robin. Walk to Blackstone Valley Pl and turn left. On the right, follow signs for Building 5 (only building with a green roof towards the right of the park).

Driving (from Providence): Take I-95 N to R1-146 N. Take R1-116 N exit to Lincoln. Continue on R1-116 N 0.6 miles. Take a left onto Blackstone Valley Place. Turn right into parking lot for Blackstone Center. Follow signs to Building 5.