

Vascular Testing



and You



SOCIETY FOR VASCULAR ULTRASOUND

VASCULAR ULTRASOUND is an important diagnostic tool used in the diagnosis and detection of blood vessel problems. Ultrasound is also used to detect heart problems.

Your vascular lab visit will consist of a safe non-invasive ultrasound exam. Non-invasive means the ultrasound procedure does not require the use of needles, dyes, radiation or anesthesia. Ultrasound uses sound wave frequencies too high to be heard by humans as a safe and harmless method to diagnose many medical conditions.

A qualified technologist will perform your procedure by applying a hypoallergenic water-based gel to the area to be evaluated. Then a small microphone-like device called a transducer is passed over the gel coated area to be examined, which produces an image on the screen of the ultrasound machine. Ultrasound is also used to measure the blood flow in specific blood vessels. Noises might be heard while the technologist listens to the blood flow. Upon completion of the exam, a physician reviews and interprets all of the images and blood flow measurements.

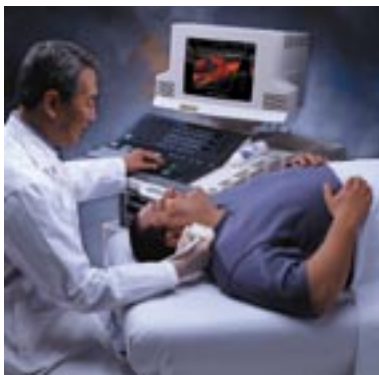
Your Future Visit

To prepare for your vascular ultrasound examination, you should wear comfortable clothing. You may be given a hospital gown and asked to undress from the waist up or down. There is no special preparation for most exams except for abdominal vascular ultrasound exams.

Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment for registration purposes. Most exams take 30–60 minutes to complete. After your exam is completed you will be free to go about your daily routine. The test results will generally be available within 24–48 hours for your referring physician's review.

Carotid Duplex

Ultrasound is used to evaluate the carotid arteries located in the neck that feed the brain with blood. Gel will be applied to the skin of the neck. A transducer will be placed on the gel covered areas to obtain images and evaluate and listen to the blood flow in the arteries.



Transcranial Doppler (TCD)

The blood vessels that supply the brain within the skull are evaluated by Transcranial Doppler. This exam is performed with a small transducer that is placed on the skin of the face and head. This exam takes approximately 60 minutes.

Venous Duplex

Ultrasound is used to evaluate the veins that carry blood to the heart from the legs or arms. Gel will be applied to the skin of the legs or arms. A transducer will be placed on the gel covered areas to obtain images and evaluate flow in the veins.



Arterial Duplex

Ultrasound is used to evaluate the arteries that feed the arms and legs with blood. Gel will be applied to the skin of the legs or arms. A transducer will be placed on the gel covered areas to obtain images and listen to the blood flow in the arms or legs.

Arterial Pressures and Waveforms

Ultrasound and blood pressure cuffs are used to evaluate the arteries that supply the arms and legs with blood. Several blood pressure cuffs will be placed at different segments of your legs or arms. When inflated, the cuffs will provide blood pressure readings as well as waveforms. This test will locate areas of blockage within the arteries.



Abdominal Vascular Duplex

Ultrasound is used to evaluate the blood vessels that bring blood to and away from your abdominal organs. Gel will be applied to the abdomen. A transducer will be placed on the

gel covered areas to obtain images and listen to blood flow in the arteries and or veins.

Prior to your exam you must fast (nothing by mouth) for 12 hours prior to your scheduled appointment.



APPOINTMENT INFORMATION

Name: _____

MR#: _____

Your exam is scheduled on:

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday

Month _____ Date _____

at _____ : _____ pm / am

Your physician has requested that you have an ultrasound exam.

The scheduled exam is called:

- Carotid Duplex
- Transcranial Doppler (TCD)
- Venous Duplex
- Arterial Duplex
- Arterial Pressures and Waveforms
- Abdominal Vascular Duplex

- Special preparation is needed.** Prior to your exam you must fast (nothing by mouth) for 12 hours prior to your scheduled appointment.

Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment for registration purposes. Most exams take 30–60 minutes to complete. After your exam is completed you will be free to go about your daily routine.