



## Duplex Ultrasound

A duplex ultrasound is a safe and non-invasive test that utilizes sound waves emitted through a hand held probe. This test can be used to help in evaluation of blood flow through your arteries, veins, prosthetic grafts and stents inside vessels. Information obtained, helps your physician make a diagnosis and outline a treatment plan. An ultrasound testing should ALWAYS be performed by a credentialed sonographer.

### WHY IT'S DONE

Arteries that are tested can include; Carotids, Leg arteries, arm arteries, aorta and iliacs. Inferior vena cava (IVC), iliacs, femoral and leg veins can be studied with ultrasound. Other veins can include evaluation of arm veins e.g. prior to dialysis access creation.

### DESCRIPTION

Ultrasound is a painless test which is easy for the patient. The examination can be done in comfortable clothing; disposable shorts or gowns may be provided. It usually takes about 20-30 minutes.

### HOW TO PREPARE

There is little preparation required for duplex ultrasound. Occasionally, patients may need to fast before an abdominal exam. Please ask your physician and/or vascular sonographer for any specific preparation.

### WHAT CAN I EXPECT AFTER THE TEST?

There are no side effects following duplex ultrasound examination and results are generally results are available almost immediately.