

A Patient's Guide to **CIRCULATION ULTRASOUND**

Circulation (Vascular) Ultrasound provides your doctor with moving images of your circulatory system (arteries and veins) and takes excellent pictures that will help your doctor evaluate your circulation's health. A specially-trained technician (sonographer) will use a gel to slide a microphone-like device called a transducer over your body. Reflected sound waves will provide images of your veins and arteries. Circulation ultrasound uses the same technology that allows doctors to see an unborn baby inside the pregnant mother. This examination does not involve radiation.



A CIRCULAR ULTRASOUND (VASCULAR TEST) IS:

- Safe (no radiation, no side effects)
- Proven and trusted by physicians worldwide
- Fast (45-60 minutes)
- Comprehensive (provides your doctor with valuable information about the health of your circulatory system)

YOU MAY BENEFIT FROM THIS IF YOU'VE EXPERIENCED:

- A stroke or mini-stroke (TIA)
- A blood clot in one of your blood vessels
- Pain in your legs with walking

Many other possible reasons, including a history of disease of the circulatory system in your family, might lead your doctor to want to evaluate your circulation health.

WHAT IS CIRCULATION ULTRASOUND?

WHAT IS PERIPHERAL VASCULAR ULTRASOUND?

This procedure uses sound waves to obtain images and measure speed (velocity) of blood flow in carotids (neck), arms, legs, abdominal aorta, and renal (kidney) blood vessels. These images are analyzed to determine whether or not you have blockages in your arteries, blood clots in your veins, or if an abdominal aortic aneurysm is present.

WHAT IS CAROTID ULTRASOUND?

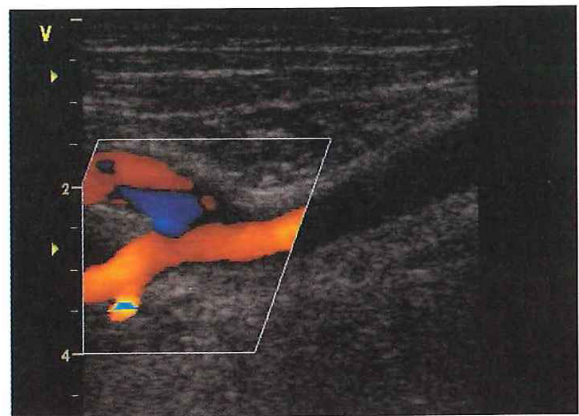
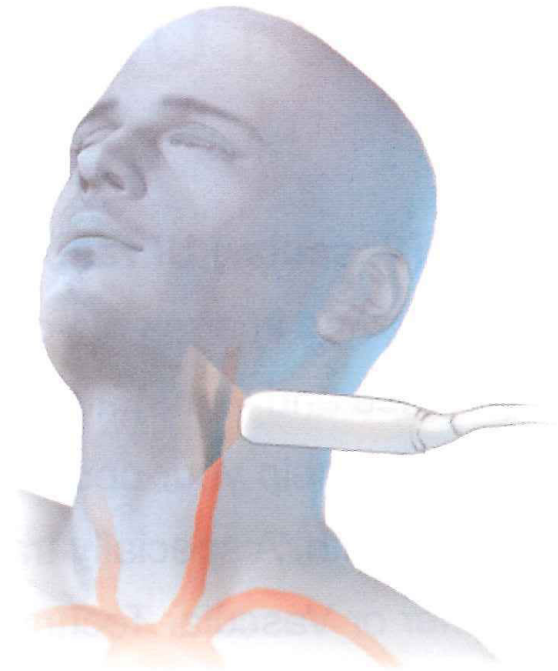
This procedure uses sound waves to obtain color images of the arteries in your neck. The physician evaluates the images to determine to what extent these arteries are blocked and how much blood is flowing to your brain and eyes. There are two carotid arteries, one on each side of your neck. Both sides will be checked during the procedure. No preparation is needed.

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

Go to www.SeeMyHeart.org to see interactive animations of a circulation ultrasound, to read more about other ultrasound options of the heart and circulation evaluation, and to find a quality heart and circulation ultrasound lab (IAC Echo and/or IAC Vascular accredited) in your area.



See My Heart
American Society of Echocardiography



The American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) is a professional organization of physicians, cardiac sonographers, vascular technologists, nurses and scientists involved in the use of ultrasound to image the heart and cardiovascular system. The organization was founded in 1975 and has around 17,000 national and international members. For more information please visit us online at www.asecho.org.