

### **What is a Doppler ultrasound?**

Doppler ultrasound is a special imaging technique that uses high frequency sound waves. These sound waves produce a picture/a map of blood flow.

### **What special instructions do I need to follow to be ready for my ultrasound examination?**

No special preparation is needed for this type of examination.

If you are unable to keep your appointment, please let us know as soon as possible. Should you be admitted to hospital, please inform your Health Care Provider about your appointment.

Please do not use perfume or other scented products on the day of your study.

**For an exam of your leg veins:** Both legs must be free from support stockings, bandages and dressings. While your Health Care Provider may have requested a single leg examination, the sonographer needs to be able to access both legs.

### **Who will be performing my examination?**

A Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer will perform the examination. A Radiologist may come in near the end of your examination to review the examination with the sonographer.

### **What will happen to me during my examination?**

When you arrive in the Diagnostic Imaging Department, you will be taken to a darkened ultrasound room. The Sonographer will ask you to lie down on an imaging stretched.

The sonographer will spread a warm gel on the area of the body to be examined. A small instrument called a probe or A transducer will be placed in contact with the skin over the areas of interest and be moved slowly across it. This instrument sends and receives soundwaves that a computer uses to make pictures. These pictures can be seen by the sonographer on a monitor and they will become part of your digital record. The pictures will show if there is any vessel narrowing or clots.

Your examination will take between 30 minutes and one hour.

### **Should I expect any after effects as a result of my examination?**

There are no known side effects from an ultrasound examination. Depending on the amount of pressure that was used to get a good picture, you may experience temporary tenderness over the area(s) looked at.

### **When will I know the results?**

Your Health Care Provider will usually have a written report from the Radiologist within one week of your examination. You should obtain the results from your own Health Care Provider. If there is any urgency, your Health Care Provider is more than welcome to contact the Diagnostic Imaging Department by telephone.

If you have any other questions or concerns that have not been answered here, please feel free to ask the Diagnostic Imaging staff involved in your examination.