

Lower Extremity Arterial Doppler

What is a Lower Extremity Arterial Doppler?

A Doppler ultrasound is a noninvasive test that can be used to estimate the blood flow through your blood vessels by bouncing sound waves off circulating red blood cells

What happens when the test is performed?

- During a Doppler ultrasound, a technician trained in ultrasound imaging (sonographer) presses a small hand-held device (transducer), about the size of a bar of soap, against your skin over the area of your body being scanned
- The technician will move the sensor up and down your leg from your groin to your calf
- As the machine measures the blood flowing through a vein, it makes a swishing noise in time with the rhythm of your heartbeat

A Doppler ultrasound may help diagnose many conditions

- Blood clots
- Poorly working valves in your leg veins, which can cause blood or other fluids to build up in your legs (venous insufficiency)
- Heart valve defects and congenital heart disease
- A blocked artery (arterial occlusion)
- Slow blood circulation into your legs (peripheral artery disease)
- Swollen arteries (aneurysms)
- Narrowing of an artery, such as in your neck (carotid artery stenosis)

How do I prepare for the test?

- No preparation is necessary
- Test may take 15 to 30 minutes

Date: _____

Time: _____

Location:

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