

## Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) screening

# Why is it important to diagnose an Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm?

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms are caused due to weakening of your vessel wall leading to an out pouching. They are defined by an aortic diameter of 3.0 cms or greater. AAA's are often found during routine examinations for another reason, such as an ultrasound of the Heart or the Abdomen. If not diagnosed during the early stages, it can lead to a fatal outcome. The US Preventive Services Task Force now recommends routine screening for AAA in men between the ages of 65 to 75 years who have ever smoked. Your doctors may also order the test when they suspect this condition.

Date:		
Time:		

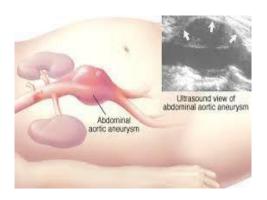
#### **Location:**

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### Why do I need a screening for an AAA?

AAA is a critical condition and now has good treatment options, as a result of which early detection is key. A screening for AAA by an Ultrasound is a simple but effective way of confirming the presence of the condition. You lay on the table and the technician moves a wand (transducer) around your abdomen. Ultrasound uses sound waves to send images to a computer screen.



## How Do I Prepare?

There is no preparation required on your part.

On the day of the test DO NOT use oil or lotion on or around the chest and neck area.