

## **Ultrasound Venous Doppler**

To Schedule: (319) 861-7778

Questions about Procedure: (319) 398-6050

### **What is an Ultrasound?**

Ultrasound is an easy and noninvasive way to see internal structures of the body. It sends high-frequency sound waves through the skin and produces images of major organs and vessels.

### **What is Doppler?**

Doppler ultrasound is a special form of ultrasound. With Doppler ultrasound, it is possible to both see the structures inside the body and to evaluate blood flow at the same time. An audible sound may be used or the flow may be shown as a graphic or color display.

### **Why should I have an Ultrasound?**

A Doppler ultrasound exam gives your doctor a great deal of information about your blood vessels and about the way, the blood is passing through them. Doppler may be used almost anywhere. One of the common uses of Doppler ultrasound is to look at the veins in the arms and legs to evaluate for blood clots.

### **What can I expect during the exam?**

The pictures made by the returning echoes are displayed on a TV screen, which are watched by the technologist performing the scan. In addition, returning sound waves that have been struck by moving blood can be heard by means of speakers on the sides of the machine. They may sound like water in a washing machine or the wind gusting. Veins are very compressible. During the exam, the technologist will apply pressure to confirm compressibility of the vein.

### **Preparation:**

No preparation necessary.

### **PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:**

**A PHOTO ID TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY**

**A LIST OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS YOU ARE TAKING**

### **Procedure:**

A gel-like substance is applied to your skin and the transducer is then placed on the area to be examined. The ultrasound transducer is pressed against your arm or leg to compress the vein which can cause some discomfort. This compression is necessary to rule out clots in the vein. Pictures are taken during the procedure along with blood flow measurements. The average Doppler ultrasound exam takes about 30 minutes.

**Parking/Registration:**

Park in the Mercy Medical Center 10<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE. You will be pre-registered, so you can proceed to **Ground (G)** level and follow the signs to “Radiology (X-Ray),” also located on Ground (G) level.

**If you are having this procedure at the Mercy Health Plaza Imaging Center:**

The Imaging Center is located in the NE corner of the Plaza next to Galaxy Theatre, at 5264 Council St. NE. Park in front of the building. You will be pre-registered, so you can proceed to the Reception desk.

**Procedure Results (Who interprets the results):**

A radiologist will review the images shortly after the exam is completed. A written report will be sent to your doctor. Your doctor will discuss the results with you. Please allow your physician time to review these results, usually 2 business days after the exam.

**Your appointment date and time:**

Procedure date: \_\_\_\_\_

Procedure time: \_\_\_\_\_(Please arrive 15 minutes early)