

Arterial Doppler

What is an Arterial Doppler?

An Arterial Duplex is an ultrasound test that uses high frequency sound waves (ultrasound) and a series of blood pressure cuffs to show and measure blood flow in the arteries of the arms and legs.

Why is an Arterial Doppler performed?

Common indications for the performance of an Arterial Doppler include:

- Leg pain while walking.
- Coldness, numbness or tingling in your hands, arms, legs, or feet.
- Following angioplasty or stent placement of an artery in an arm or leg.
- A sore that does not heal.

What can I expect during the Arterial Doppler?

- A personal history describing current vascular symptoms will be obtained.
- You may be asked to remove outer clothing and put on a patient gown.
- Measurements will be taken as you lie in a bed.
- A slight pressure from the cuffs will be applied to your arms and legs as the pressure cuffs inflate.
- You will hear pulse-like noises periodically during your exam when the technologist is checking the blood flow through your arteries.

Will I have pain or discomfort during the test?

The pressure is mild and lasts for a short period of time. The pressure should not cause any pain. You should tell the sonographer if you are uncomfortable during the test.

How long will the exam take?

You will be in the Imaging department for 1-2 hours.



What should you wear?

Wear loose fitted clothing that is easy to remove.

When will I know the results of the exam?

The images from the exam will be reviewed by a board certified vascular physician. You will be contacted, by your ordering physician, with results within 5 business days.

Contact the Imaging department for any questions prior to your exam, 217-762-1820.