What is a Carotid Duplex?

A carotid duplex is an ultrasound to evaluate symptoms including dizziness, loss of memory, stroke, loss of muscle control and other symptoms that might result from narrowing or blockage of the vessels (carotid arteries) on either side of your neck. A carotid ultrasound can also be used to screen for stroke risk.

What do I need to do to prepare for this exam?

No special preparation is needed for the exam.

What should I expect from this exam?

The sonographer will ask questions regarding your medical history and the problems you are experiencing. You will lie on your back for the exam.

A gel will be used along with the transducer (Ultrasound probe that transmits sound waves) to image the vessels in your neck. The sonographer will apply mild pressure with the transducer to obtain images of your vessels (carotid arteries). The exam takes 30-45 minutes.

Who will perform the exam?

A registered sonographer will perform the exam in the Imaging department.

How will I get the results of the exam?

You will receive your results from your ordering physician. This may take 3-5 days for the office to contact you. Please contact your provider if it has been longer than 5 days.

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