

## Imaging Department

### Upper Extremity Venous Duplex for DVT Ultrasound

Your doctor has ordered an ultrasound to look at the veins in your upper extremity. The physician wants to see if you have a clot or deep vein thrombosis (DVT) in the deep vein system of your arm (which includes the veins in your neck, chest, upper, and lower arm). There are a few things you should know before you arrive to the Ultrasound department.

**PREPARATION:** None. You may take all your medications, eat, and drink normally.

**BEFORE THE TEST:** For your safety you will be asked a number of questions by the sonographer and/or radiologist. Possible questions include, but are not limited to:

- What kind of symptoms are you having?
- Medical history?
- Any previous surgeries?

**THE TEST:** You will be asked to lay on your back for the procedure and to remove any necessary clothing to allow access to your veins. The sonographer will apply gel and rub a camera on your neck, upper chest, and arm to evaluate the entire deep vein system. This exam should not cause any discomfort, although you will need to lie in position for 1- 1 ½ hours. Also, the tech will need to press gently on your arm to check the compressibility of your veins. If you become uncomfortable, the sonographer will attempt to make you more comfortable.

**AFTER YOUR TEST:** The sonographer must take 5-10 minutes to review your images with the radiologist, to make sure no additional imaging is needed before you leave. There are no restrictions from the Ultrasound Department after your test.

**RESULTS:** The radiologist will study your images in great detail and will dictate a report. This will be transcribed for your ordering physician and faxed to his/her office within 48 business hours so he/she can review and discuss it with you. Your sonographer is unable to give you any results at the time of testing.

Every effort will be made to make you as comfortable as possible during your examination. If you have any questions or concerns, please direct them to the imaging staff at (574) 364-2819.