

Imaging Department

Lower Extremity Venous Duplex-DVT Study Ultrasound

Your doctor has ordered a Venous Doppler Ultrasound of your leg(s) to evaluate for a clot or DVT (deep vein thrombosis). This is an examination of the entire deep vein system in you leg(s). The leg opposite your complaint will also be imaged for comparison. There are a few things you should know about before you arrive to the Ultrasound department.

PREPARATION: None. You may eat, drink, and take all your medications as usual before the exam.

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?
- Any previous surgeries?
- Medical History?

THE TEST: You will be asked to lay on your back for the procedure. You will be asked to remove necessary clothing to allow access to your entire leg. The sonographer will apply gel and rub a camera on your legs to evaluate the veins and other structures. The tech will assess the entire deep vein system from your groin to your calf. The tech will need to gently press on your leg to evaluate compressibility of your veins. A few, quick images will also be taken in the opposite groin area for comparison reasons. This exam should not cause you any discomfort, although you will need to lie in position for 1-1 ½ hours. 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 which will be transcribed for your ordering physician to review and discuss 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.