

Imaging Department

Mesenteric Artery Ultrasound

Your doctor has ordered a Mesenteric Artery Ultrasound for you. This is an examination of your mesenteric artery and how the blood is flowing through it. There are a few things you should know before you arrive to the Ultrasound department.

PREPARATION: Do not eat, drink, chew gum, or smoke after midnight on the day of the exam. This will prevent the gastrointestinal system from producing gas which interferes with the ultrasound and accuracy of 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?
- Medical history?
- Any previous surgeries?

THE TEST: You will be asked to lay on your back for the exam. The sonographer will apply gel and rub a camera around on your abdomen to evaluate the arteries and other structures. The sonographer will then give you a high calorie shake to drink. After you consume this drink, additional images will be taken to see how the food is affecting your arterial flow.

This exam should not cause any discomfort, although you will need to lie in position for 1-2 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 dictate a report. It will then be transcribed for your ordering physician and faxed to his/her office within 48 business hours so that he/she may review and discuss it with you. Your sonographer is unable to give you 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.