

Imaging Department

Renal Artery Duplex Ultrasound

Your doctor has ordered a Renal Artery Ultrasound for you. This is an examination of your renal (kidney) arteries and how the blood is flowing through them. There are a few things you should know before you arrive to the Ultrasound department.

PREPARATION: You should not eat, drink, chew gum, or smoke within 6 hours of the exam time. This will prevent the gastrointestinal system from producing gas which interferes with the exam. If you are a diabetic, try to schedule your appointment as early in the morning as possible and do prep starting at midnight.

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 lie on your back, right side, and left side for the exam. The sonographer will apply gel and rub a camera around on your abdomen to evaluate your kidneys, arteries and other structures. You will be asked to hold your breath for pictures. This exam should not cause any discomfort, although you will need to lie in position for 1-1.5 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.