

Non-Invasive Vascular Ultrasound – Your Role in Patient Safety

Ultrasound

An ultrasound scan (sonogram) is an examination that uses sound waves to create an image of your body. Non-Invasive Vascular Ultrasound is used as a routine test for veins and arteries.

Ultrasound is painless and usually takes from 30 to 60 minutes to perform depending on what examination your physician has requested.

Ultrasound Safety

Unlike x-rays, ultrasound does not use ionizing radiation. It uses high frequency sound waves to produce detailed images of your body. Ultrasound is very safe.

Ultrasonic Gel

Special gel is spread over your skin during the examination, which allows the technologist to see your veins and/or arteries as clearly as possible. The gel does not contain any sensitizers or fragrances that may irritate your skin or cause a reaction.

Medications

You should never stop taking any prescribed medications, unless you are advised by your physician or health care provider responsible for your care.

Preparation

You will be advised of any instructions to be followed before your examination.

Let us Know if You Are:

- Are anxious about your ultrasound examination
- Unable to perform any of the instructions required for the test, before your appointment.

Safety Tips

- Ensure you inform the staff of any slip, trip or falls you may have had within the last six months
- Bring any mobility aide you use at home with you to assist in your examinations (canes, walkers, etc.)
- Help promote infection control in the hospital by using the hand sanitizer, from the stations or dispensers provided

Self-Screen

Please reschedule your appointment if you have any of the following symptoms:

- Fever
- Cough
- Trouble Breathing

To ensure your safety, please inform staff if you are uncomfortable or need assistance.

If you have any questions, please contact the Diagnostic Imaging Department at 416-469-6580 ext. 2667.