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Lower/Upper Extremity Arterial Doppler Study

What is a Lower/Upper Extremity Arterial Doppler Study?

A Doppler ultrasound is a noninvasive test that can be used to estimate the blood flow through your blood vessels by bouncing sound waves off circulating red blood cells

What happens when the test is performed?

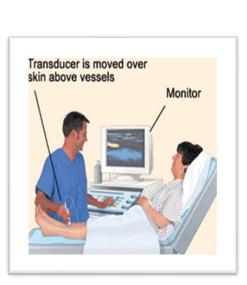
- During a Doppler ultrasound, a technologist trained in ultrasound imaging (sonographer) presses a small hand-held device (transducer), about the size of a bar of soap, against your skin over the area of your body being scanned
- The technician will move the sensor up and down your leg from your groin to your calf or up and down your arm from your armpit to your wrist
- As the machine measures the blood flowing through a artery, it makes a swishing noise in time with the rhythm of your heartbeat

A Doppler ultrasound may help diagnose many conditions:

- Blood clots
- A clogged artery due to plaque build-up
- Slow blood circulation into your legs (peripheral artery disease)
- Swollen arteries (aneurysms)
- Narrowing of an artery (stenois)

How do I prepare for the test?

- No preparation is necessary
- The test may take 30 to 45 minutes



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