

CAROTID INTIMA-MEDIA THICKNESS SCREENING

OVERVIEW: The Carotid Intima-Media Thickness test (CIMT) uses sound waves and is uniquely suited to detect not just calcific (hard) plaques but subtler soft plaques in the carotid arteries (the arteries of the neck).

The ultrasound of the carotid arteries is performed on both sides of the patient's neck. An ultrasound probe is placed on the patient's neck to obtain images that will be recorded and stored for review. The ultrasound device accurately and reproducibly measures the thickness of the inner two layers of the artery and plaque, if present.

PREPARATION: There is no special preparation needed for this exam.

This test can rule out and diagnose a number of problems such as (not limited to):

- Risk for cardiovascular disease
- Detection of increased intima-media thickness
- Detection of presence of plaques in the arteries
- Calculated vascular age

The reason for the test will depend on your symptoms.

THIS ULTRASOUND WILL TAKE ABOUT 20-30 MINUTES AND THE REPORT WILL BE BACK TO YOUR ORDERING PHYSICIAN WITHIN 24-48 HOURS