

CAROTID ULTRASOUND

OVERVIEW: For this exam, the sonographer will examine the right and left common carotid arteries, bulbs, bifurcations, external carotid artery, internal carotid artery, and vertebral arteries.

PREPARATION: There is no specific test preparation for this exam.

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

- Plaque within the carotid arteries
- Identify a stenosis or occluded artery caused by plaque
- Screen for intimal media thickening
- Determine the reason for bruit (abnormal vascular sound in the patient's neck-as heard by their physician)
- Help determine the reason for vision problems, dizziness or syncope, etc.

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.