

Vascular Ultrasound

This is a painless technique using ultrasound for visualizing arteries and veins. It is a generic term that includes tests such as Carotid Ultrasound, Venous Ultrasound and Arterial Ultrasound. These procedures are sometimes referred to as Duplex Vascular Ultrasound because the information is typically displayed in two different ways. One is an image that displays the cross sectional anatomy of the blood vessel being studied. It is what is typically thought of as an ultrasound image (like the baby pictures of a pregnancy). The other is what is called doppler. This is a two dimensional visual display of the speed and direction of blood flow within a vessel, similar to doppler weather maps that display cloud movements overlaid on a map. Doppler allows us to determine if blood flow has slowed, reversed or stopped in a blood vessel because of disease and accurately measure the severity of the disease.

