

DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS

ARTERIAL DOPPLER ULTRASOUND (Upper or Lower Extremity) OR VENOUS DOPPLER ULTRASOUND (Upper or Lower Extremity)

Patient:_____ Appointment Date: _____

Appointment Time: ______ am/pm

Location: Diagnostic Imaging Department, lower level at Mankato Clinic 1230 East Main Street, Mankato, MN 56001 Please enter the Mankato Clinic front door (marked #50)

Please check in at the Diagnostic Imaging Department.

If you are unable to keep your appointment or have questions, please call (507) 389-8570.

What is an Extremity Doppler Ultrasound?

An extremity doppler ultrasound uses sound waves, not radiation, and an instrument called a transducer to obtain images of the deep vessels (arteries or veins) of the arms or legs.

How do I prepare for the test:

- There are no dietary restrictions for this test.
- We recommend that you contact your insurance company prior to your appointment to understand what your coverage is for this test.
- To provide the best service and ensure your safety, young unsupervised children should not accompany parents to their Ultrasound appointments. Safety practices limit the number of people in the testing room and young children are not to be left unsupervised while in the waiting room or lobby. This will also ensure you can relax during the test which will result in better image outcomes.
- Arriving late may result in rescheduling your test.

What will happen during the test:

- You may be asked to undress. A gown will be provided.
- You will be asked to lie on a bed.
- This test may take 30-60 minutes to complete per arm or leg.
- Warm gel will be placed on your arm(s) or legs(s).
- A transducer will be placed on your skin and moved around during the test.
- The sonographer may apply pressure with the transducer throughout the test to compress the veins underneath.
- The sonographer will take several images.
- At times you will hear loud noises that sound like a heartbeat as the sonographer listens to the blood flow.

Instructions for after your test:

- You may resume your regular diet unless you have been given other instructions.
- The final signed report will be sent to the provider that ordered your test.
- Your test results will be available in your patient portal immediately after your provider reviews them. Your provider will discuss the results with you at your follow-up appointment. If you do not have a follow-up appointment, your provider will contact you by letter or phone within five to seven business days.