

CAROTID ULTRASOUND

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 a Carotid Ultrasound?

A carotid ultrasound uses sound waves, not radiation, and an instrument called a transducer to obtain images of the arteries in your neck. The carotid arteries carry blood from the heart to the head.

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 will be asked to lie on a bed.
- This test may take up to 60 minutes to complete.
- You will be asked to refrain from talking during the test in order to obtain accurate images.
- Warm gel will be placed on your neck.
- A transducer will be moved around on your neck during the exam.
- 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.