

ABDOMINAL VASCULAR ULTRASOUND

Appointment

Date:

Time:

Patient Preparation:

8 hr fast for abdominal
Vasculature, maintain fluids
with water

Time For Examination:

30 mins to 60 mins

Please Bring:

Referral
Previous imaging

Locations:

Gold Coast Radiology,
Suite 1 & 2 Harbour Point
10 Santa Barbara Road,
Hope Island, QLD 4212
Phone: 07 55142555
Fax: 07 55142511
www.gcradiology.com.au

**Undercover parking is
available.**

Ultrasound uses high frequency sound waves to generate an image. There are no known side effects. It has the ability to image in real time, allowing structures and movement to be seen and recorded. This makes it a good modality to view arteries and veins and record blood flow.

All ultrasound examinations use a hypo allergenic gel on the probe (hand held device) so it can slide over the skin and provide a medium for the sound waves to pass through to the body. Doppler ultrasound (special application ultrasound) that measures the direction and speed of blood cells as they pass through the vessel. You will hear pulse like sounds that change in pitch as blood flow is monitored and measured.

You may be required to change into a gown for the exam. You have been fasted to minimise bowel gas to make imaging easier. The examination is done lying down, you may also need to change position and lie on your side & you will be instructed during the exam when to hold your breath or maintain quiet breathing. This enables the artery being examined to be held still in a position that is suitable for the ultrasound probe to get the best image. This is quite important and can be challenging as the arteries are also surrounded by bowel gas that can obscure the artery being looked at. For this reason you will often feel a firm pressure from the probe as it 'pushes the bowel away' to see better.

By taking images and readings through the arteries narrowings and blockages can be detected that affect blood supply to the particular organ that the artery is supplying.

Renal arteries take blood to the kidneys
SMA (superior mesenteric artery) & Coeliac Artery to the bowel.
Aorta & Iliacs arteries supply blood to the legs.

At the end of all examinations gel will be wiped off and you will be asked to dress while the films are reviewed and a worksheet is prepared. Our Radiology Doctor will send a report back to your referring doctor.