

ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY AND PACING INTERVENTIONALISTS

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CAROTID DUPLEX TEST INSTRUCTIONS

You have been scheduled for a Carotid Duplex test. Please contact the office between 8:30am and 4:30pm if you have any questions.

Appt Date	Appt Time	Description	Location	Provider
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1. **Cancellations:** Notify the office twenty-four hours before the day of the test if you have to cancel your test for any reason.

2. **What is a Carotid Duplex?** Carotid duplex is a painless and harmless test to look for disease in the two main blood vessels that provide blood flow to the brain. Ultrasound uses sound waves instead of radiation to generate snapshots or moving pictures of structures inside the body.

The primary purpose of a carotid ultrasound is to test for narrowed carotid arteries that indicate an increased risk of stroke. Narrowing of carotid arteries is usually caused by plaque – a buildup of fat, cholesterol, calcium and other substances that circulate in the bloodstream. Early detection of narrowed carotid arteries enables your doctor to begin treatments to improve blood flow to your brain and decrease your risk of stroke.

3. **What to Expect:** The sonographer will put ultrasound gel on your neck and use a wand-like device called a transducer which is passed lightly over the skin.
The test may take 20 - 30 minutes.

4. **To Prepare:** No special prep is needed.
You may eat and drink before this test.

5. **After the Test:** There are no known side effects to the test.
After the test, you may return to your normal activity unless otherwise instructed.

Additional Instructions: