

**Central Ohio Primary Care  
Radiology Department**

**CAROTID ULTRASOUND**



**What is Ultrasound?**

Ultrasound is defined as sound with a frequency greater than 20,000 Hertz, above the range audible to the human ear. An ultrasound exam, or sonogram, is a safe and generally non-invasive procedure that utilizes high-frequency sound waves to image an internal body structure.

**How should I prepare for the procedure?**

- **Carotid:**
  - No Prep

**How is the procedure performed?**

A standard ultrasound is a safe and simple procedure. You will be greeted by an ultrasound tech and instructed to lie on a table. The technologist will apply a gel to the skin over the area being examined. The gel helps to obtain high quality images. The technologist then passes the transducer over the targeted area and obtains the desired diagnostic data. Depending on the type of exam, you may have to lie still, change positions, hold your breath, or perform simple breathing exercises. When finished, the technologist washes off the gel and the exam is over. Most exams take approximately 30 minutes.

**What are my instructions after the exam?**

You may return to your regular diet and activities.

**When do I get the results?**

Once the examination is completed, the Ultrasound images will be studied by the radiologist and compared to any previous x-rays of the same area you may have had taken previously. A written report of the radiologist interpretation will be forwarded to your physician either by fax or mail. Please allow a few days for your physician to follow up with you regarding the results of your test.

**What do I do if I have further questions?**

If you have any questions before or after your appointment, please feel free to call our radiology department at 614-273-0411 option 5 or toll free at 1-877-273-0450.