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ABDOMINAL AORTIC DUPLEX IMAGING

What is Abdominal Aortic Duplex Imaging?

The aorta is a large artery that runs from your heart down through your chest and abdomen. The aorta takes blood from your heart to the rest of your body. Abdominal Aortic Duplex Imaging is a combination of ultrasound images (pictures) and Doppler ultrasound (sounds). This ultrasound will also identify if there is an abnormal enlargement of the aorta (aneurysm), presence of plaque, the location, and the extent of the disease within the aorta. Doppler ultrasound analyzes the blood flow in the aorta. This is a painless procedure. The technologist will apply a small amount of gel to the skin of your abdomen and will place an ultrasound probe on this gel. You may hear sounds of the flow of blood through your aorta during the test.

Why do I need to have this procedure done?

- To detect narrowing and plaques in the aorta

How should I prepare for the procedure?

- Do not eat any greasy foods the night before or the morning of the test.
- Do not eat any foods 4 hours prior to the test.
- Do drink 36 ounces (4 cups) of water 1 hour prior to the test.
- Do not smoke or use any form of nicotine for 2 hours before the test.
- You will need to lie very still during the procedure.

Is there anything specific to do after the test?

- No special care is required after the test. You may return to your usual level of diet and activity immediately after the test is completed, unless the doctor or nurse practitioner has instructed you differently.

Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you!