



## **Imaging Department** **Abdominal Aorta Duplex Ultrasound**

Your doctor has ordered an Abdominal Aorta Ultrasound for you. This is an examination of your abdominal aorta, iliac arteries, and both kidneys. There are a few things you should know before you arrive to the Ultrasound department.

**PREPARTION:** After midnight, the night before your exam, do not eat, drink, chew gum, or smoke. This prevents the gastrointestinal system from producing gas (which interferes with the exam) and therefore improves the accuracy of the exam. This exam should be scheduled before any barium study, special procedure (including endoscopies), and/or abdominal/pelvic CT scans. If you are a diabetic, the exam should be scheduled in the early morning, if possible.

**BEFORE THE TEST:** For your safety, you will be asked a number of questions by the sonographer and/or radiologist. Possible questions include, but are not limited to:

- What kind of symptoms are you having?
- Any previous abdominal surgeries?
- Pertinent family medical history?
- Have you ate or drank anything today?

**THE TEST:** You will be asked to lay on your back for the procedure. The sonographer will apply gel and rub a camera on your abdomen to evaluate your aorta, iliac arteries, and both kidneys. The sonographer may ask you to hold your breath or roll on your side during the scan. This exam should not cause any discomfort, although you will need to lie in position for 1-2 hours. If you become uncomfortable, the sonographer will help to try and make you more comfortable.

**AFTER YOUR TEST:** The sonographer must take 5-10 minutes to review your images with the radiologist, to make sure no additional imaging is needed before you leave. There are no restrictions from the ultrasound department after your test.

**RESULTS:** The radiologist will study your images in great detail and will dictate a report. This will be transcribed for your ordering physician and faxed to his/her office within 48 business hours so he/she can review and discuss it with you. Your sonographer is unable to give you any results at the time of testing.

Every effort will be made to make you as comfortable as possible during your examination. If you have questions or concerns, please direct them to the imaging staff at (574) 364-2819.