

Upper limb venous scan- DVT.

What is it?

An ultrasound scan of your arm veins may also be called a duplex or Doppler. This test uses ultrasound to produce images of the veins in your arms. The veins carry blood from your extremities (arms) back to your heart.

This test is safe and effective way to assess if there are any clots in the deep and superficial veins of the arm. A blood clot in the deep veins is called a deep vein thrombosis (DVT). A clot in a superficial vein is called a thrombophlebitis. This will enable the consultant to plan your treatment.

Why am I having this test?

You are having this test because the doctor suspects there may be a blood clot in your arm vein. You may have had symptoms of arm swelling, pain and redness.

How is the venous ultrasound performed?

There is no preparation needed prior to the scan. A clinical scientist (who may be male or female) will perform and interpret your ultrasound scan. The scan is performed from the neck area to the wrist so you may be asked to remove your top. Tissue will be tucked in to protect any remaining clothing and your dignity will be maintained throughout. The lights will be dimmed to help see the screen better.

The scan will be performed with you either lying down to sat upright on the scanning couch. Gel will be applied to your

arm and the scientist will use some light pressure on the arm to tell if there is a blood clot within the veins. The scan will take up to 30 minutes.



What happens next?

The clinical scientist will comment on the findings and will write a report for the doctor who requested the scan. You will be able to discuss the result of the scan fully with the referring team.