

# Ultrasound of your leg arteries.

## What is it?

An ultrasound scan of your arteries in your leg may also be called an arterial duplex or arterial Doppler. This test uses ultrasound to produce images of your arteries. The arteries carry blood away from the heart to your arms and legs. This test is a safe and effective way to assess the blood flow and can let us know if there are any narrowing's or blockages in the arteries. This will allow the consultant to appropriately plan your treatment. The test should be painless and does not use any radiation or needles. There are no risks of having this scan.

## Why am I having this test?

Your doctor has requested this scan because they suspect that there might be narrowing's or blockages in your arteries which are causing the pain when you walk or might be contributing to your wounds etc.

## How is the arterial ultrasound performed?

There is no preparation needed for the scan. A clinical scientist or trainee scientist (who may be male or female) will perform and interpret your ultrasound scan. You will be asked to remove your shoes and trousers/skirt and tissue will be tucked in place to protect your clothing from the gel. The scan will be performed with you lying down and then sat up to get the best views of the calf arteries. The ultrasound scan will start in the groin and work down towards the ankle. If



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needed the scientist will scan your tummy vessels. The test will take approximately 30-60 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 at your next outpatient appointment. If this scan is performed in vascular clinic, you will see the doctor afterwards to discuss the result.