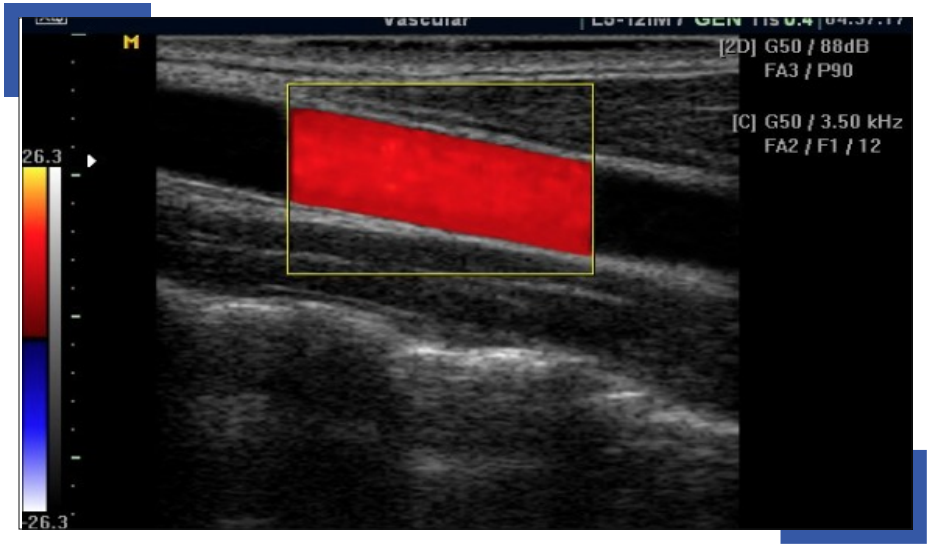
MOLECULAR
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Understanding
Colour Doppler - Carotids



What is Colour Doppler - Carotids?

Colour Doppler ultrasound of the neck (carotid artery) is a non-invasive ultrasound examination that can be performed to assess the carotids of the neck that carry blood to the brain. This is a combination of conventional ultrasound and Colour Doppler and spectral Doppler, which allows it to assess the integrity of the arteries, blood flow direction and velocity, and other blood vessel features. The test could be used to check whether the blood flow in the carotid artery is narrowed,

Why is it Performed?

This examination can be conducted if there are symptoms or clinical indications warranting evaluation of blood flow in the carotid arteries. It can also be utilized to assess carotid artery narrowing or stenosis as well as the formation of plaques, changes in blood-flow pattern, and other abnormal vascular changes which could impact circulation to the brain. Alternatively, it might be indicated for testing or surveillance of existing carotid artery disease. The result aids the physician in his

Preparation

- Wear comfortable clothing that allows easy access to the neck.
- Avoid wearing necklaces or other accessories around the neck during the examination.
- Inform the medical team about current medicines and conditions.

Procedure

The examination table is extended, and the patient is comfortably laid out with his or her head correctly positioned. Ultrasound gel is smeared on both sides of the neck, after which the ultrasound probe is skilfully passed over the carotid arteries. Conventional ultrasound is utilised to visualise the walls of the arteries and surrounding tissues, while Colour Doppler and spectral Doppler are used to assess the direction, velocity, and blood flow pattern. Examination is normally of the common carotid arteries and branches of the common carotid.

Important Instructions

- Follow all instructions provided by the sonologist or medical team.
- Wear comfortable clothing that allows easy access to the neck.
- Remove necklaces or other accessories around the neck before the examination.
- Follow positioning instructions provided during the examination.
- Inform the sonologist if you experience significant discomfort.
- Bring previous vascular imaging reports when available.

Safety Precautions

Colour Doppler is a non-ionising form of measurement. Generally, it is safe if conducted by trained specialists with proper ultrasound protocols. Generally, no injections or contrast dye are used when performing the examination. The patient's comfort is maintained by using appropriate scanning techniques to obtain clear information about the structure and blood flow of the carotids.

When to Seek Medical Attention?

Seek medical attention if weakness (or numbness) in the face, difficulty with speaking or understanding what is being said, loss of vision, loss of balance (dizziness) suddenly, or the sudden beginning of other neurological problems. These signs and symptoms could be a medical emergency. Colour Doppler of the carotids is performed using appropriate vascular ultrasound scanning methods at Molecular Diagnostics and Therapy, and under the medical expert's guidance, priority is given to the examination of the structure of the carotid artery and its blood flow, patient safety, and comfort.