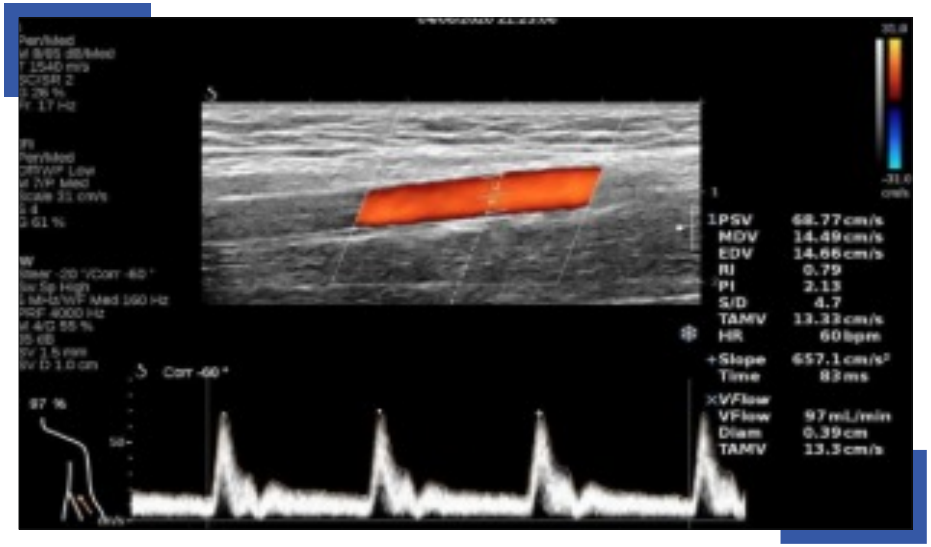
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Understanding
Colour Doppler - Upper Limb Arterial



What is Colour Doppler - Upper Limb Arterial?

Upper limb colour Doppler is a non-invasive ultrasound test of the blood vessels of one of the upper limbs. It utilizes ultrasound technology that can measure the direction and properties of blood flow and arterial structure with Colour Doppler and spectral Doppler, including blood flow in the arteries.

Why is it Performed?

This test might be done in cases of symptoms or clinical suspicion of arterial circulation problems in the arm. It can be used to examine the characteristics of reduced arterial flow, narrowing of the blood vessels or blockage of them, the dynamics of blood flow, as well as weak sensations, numbness, pain, colder skin, and other vascular issues. They will give useful clues to the doctor to help understand the blood flow through the artery in the upper limb.

Preparation

- Wear loose and comfortable clothing that allows to the arm being examined.
- Inform the medical team about current medicines and conditions.
- Bring previous Doppler, ultrasound, CT angiography, or other vascular reports.
- Inform the sonologist about any previous vascular surgery by the healthcare team.

Procedure

The patient is lying in a relaxed position on an examination table, and the ultrasound examination gel is placed on the upper limb to be examined by ultrasound. The sonologist moves the sound probe in various places of the arm to inspect the arteries. Colour Doppler and spectral Doppler are used to assess the flow, velocity, direction, and other properties of the arteries. If needed, the examination may include evaluation of the artery areas on the upper arm, elbow, forearm and wrist. The examination is usually painless with no ionising radiation.

Important Instructions

- Follow all instructions provided by the sonologist or medical team.
- Wear comfortable clothing that allows easy access to the affected limb.
- Remain relaxed and follow positioning instructions during the examination.
- Keep the arm in the position instructed during the scan.
- Inform the sonologist if you experience significant pain or discomfort.
- Bring previous vascular imaging reports when available.

Safety Precautions

Inform the medical team about previous vascular surgery, procedures, or

Colour Doppler is an ultrasound (does not rely on ionising radiation). As long as there is proper usage and protocol, as practiced by trained individuals, ultrasound is safe. The exam is not painful and will not often require an injection or special dye to be administered. During placement of the probes, the physician can acquire images of arterial blood flow suitable to provide specific clinical information comfortably.

When to Seek Medical Attention?

If the pain in the arm is sudden, severe, or if there is a lot of swelling, numbness, or weakness in the arm, the colour or temperature of the skin has changed, or it is very cold, seek urgent medical help. If an arm suddenly is weak or numb, seek immediate medical assistance. In Molecular Diagnostics and Therapy, Upper limb colour Doppler is carried out using a proper arterial ultrasound protocol, with special attention to the blood flow assessment on the arterial pathway of the upper limb and to the patient's comfort and protection.