

Pseudoaneurysm Vascular Ultrasound Exam

A pseudoaneurysm exam usually takes place after a cardiac catheterization. It uses sound waves to check blood flow in the femoral (thigh) arteries and veins found in the groin. It helps find the cause of swelling and bruising, such as a pseudoaneurysm (a leak in the artery causing blood to collect in an area).

The exam is done in the Vascular Lab. It takes about 60 minutes.

*If you have
any questions,
please ask your
physician.*

Before the test

There is no special preparation for this test. On the day of the exam, plan to arrive 15 minutes before your test time. Be sure to bring:

- Your physician's written order for the test, if you have one
- A list of your allergies
- A list of all your current medications (prescription, over-the-counter and herbal)
- Photo ID
- Medical insurance information and card
- Medicare card (Medicare patients only)

For their own safety, children under 16 may not visit in the testing area. They may stay in the waiting room with a responsible adult.

Please come to Galter Pavilion, 201 East Huron Street. Check in at the reception desk on the 8th floor.

Parking is available for patients and visitors in the garage at 222 East Huron Street, across from Feinberg and Galter pavilions. For a discounted rate, bring your parking ticket with you. You can validate your ticket at the Customer Services Desks on the 1st and 2nd floor of Feinberg and Galter pavilions, and on the 1st floor of Prentice Women's Hospital.

During the test

The technician (tech) will help you lie on your back on an exam table. They will apply a warm, clear gel to your groin. Then, the tech will move a small, hand-held device (transducer) on the skin over the area. The transducer will transmit sound waves to a monitor. The tech will see the images and save them for later review.

You may hear sounds as the tech records the blood flow.

After the test

The tech will give you towels to help remove the gel. You will get the test results at the end of the exam. If the scan finds a problem, a vascular physician may see you before you leave. In most cases, you may resume your normal diet and activities.

The vascular surgeon who reads the test will send the results to your referring physician. Most often, your physician will receive the findings within 48 hours. A full report will follow in about 5 business days.

If you have questions about this test, please call the Vascular Lab at 312.926.5809 (TTY: 711).