



## **Carotid Ultrasound Preparation & Information**

### **What is a carotid ultrasound study?**

A carotid (ka-ROT-id) ultrasound is a painless and harmless test that uses high-frequency sound waves to create pictures of the insides of your carotid arteries located on both sides of the neck.

### **Who needs a carotid ultrasound?**

Your doctor may recommend a carotid ultrasound if you:

- Had a stroke or mini-stroke recently;
- Have an abnormal sound called a carotid bruit (broo-E) in one of your carotid arteries;
- Blood clots in one of your carotid arteries; and/or
- A split between the layers of your carotid artery wall

### **What to expect during a carotid ultrasound study**

For carotid ultrasound studies, wear comfortable clothing with a loose fitting collar. The exam takes approximately 30 minutes.

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