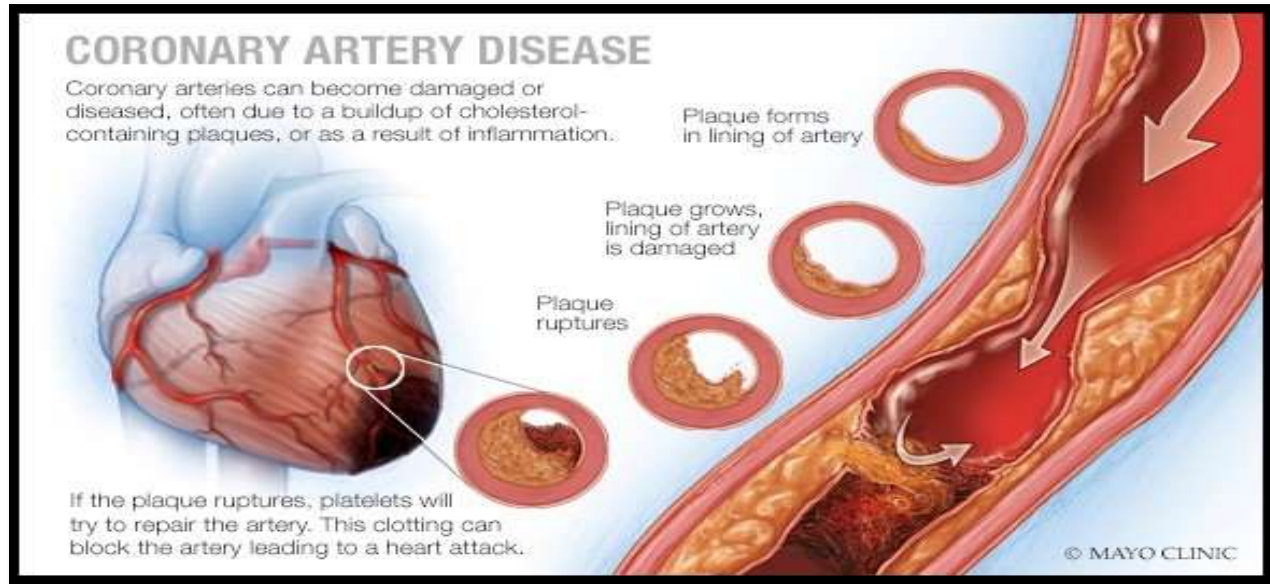


# Carotid Duplex

Ultrasound is a study that uses sound waves to "see" inside your body. A carotid duplex ultrasound is performed to evaluate symptoms including dizziness, loss of memory, stroke, loss of muscle control and other symptoms that might result from narrowing or blockage of the vessels (carotid arteries) on either side of your neck. A carotid ultrasound can also be used to screen for stroke risk.



## During Your Exam

- The vascular technologist will explain your exam and answer any questions you may have.
- Your procedure may be performed with you lying on the examination table or sitting in a chair.
- The technologist will apply warm gel to your neck area.
- A transducer, a small, microphone-like device, will be placed over each side of your neck.
- You will not feel any pain; however, you will feel mild pressure from the transducer.
- Sound waves will bounce off the organs and tissue in your body and the blood moving in your arteries. This creates "echoes." The echoes are reflected back to the transducer. A television monitor shows images as the transducer converts the echoes to electronic signals. These images may be viewed immediately, or photographed for further study.
- You may hear unusual sounds as the technologist views and records the blood flowing through your neck vessels (carotid arteries).

## How should you prepare?

- There is no preparation for this procedure.
- This test approximately 30-45 minutes.