

MANKATO CLINIC DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS

Carotid Ultrasound

Patient: _____

Appointment Date: _____ Time: _____ am / pm

Location: Diagnostic Imaging Department at Mankato Clinic
1230 East Main Street, Mankato, MN 56001

Before the Exam:

A carotid ultrasound uses sound waves, not radiation, and an instrument called a transducer to obtain images of the arteries in your neck. The carotid arteries carry blood from the heart to the head.

- There are no dietary restrictions for this exam.
- Arriving late may result in rescheduling your exam.

During the Exam:

- You will be asked to lie on a bed.
- This exam may take up to 60 minutes to complete.
- You will be asked to refrain from talking during the exam in order to obtain accurate images.
- Warm gel will be placed on your neck.
- A transducer will be moved around on your neck during the exam.
- At times you will hear loud noises that sound like a heartbeat as the sonographer listens to the blood flow.
- The sonographer will take several images.
- Your images will be reviewed and read by a radiologist.
- The final signed report will be sent to the provider that ordered your exam.

After the Exam:

- You may resume your regular routine unless you have been given other instructions.

Your exam will be reviewed and read by a Radiologist within the next 24 hours. A report will go to your provider for him/her to review. Your provider is responsible for communicating the results to you and this will be done by letter, a phone call, or a follow up appointment. If you don't have a follow up appointment scheduled and have not heard anything within a week, you have the right to call your provider's department and inquire about results.

If you are unable to keep your appointment or have questions about your exam, please call 507-389-8570.

Please check in at Patient Registration prior to going to the Diagnostic Imaging Department.