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[Unitypoint.org/cardiologyclinic](http://Unitypoint.org/cardiologyclinic)



## Venous Duplex-Insufficiency

### What is a Venous Duplex for venous insufficiency test?

A Venous Duplex for insufficiency is an ultrasound test that uses high frequency sound waves (ultrasound) to examine the veins of your leg. The Venous Duplex test measures the function of the valves in the veins and the direction of blood-flow.

### Why is a Venous Duplex exam performed?

Common indications for the performance of a Venous Duplex for insufficiency include:

- Feeling of heaviness in the leg(s)
- Pain, edema, eczema, or skin discoloration
- Pre-operative evaluation for venous insufficiency
- Varicose veins
- Venous ulcers

### What can I expect during the Venous Duplex?

- A personal history describing current vascular symptoms will be obtained.
- You may be asked to remove outer clothing and put on a patient gown.
- Images will be taken as you lie in a bed. It may be necessary to have you also stand for additional images.
- The lights in the room will be dimmed so the ultrasound screen can be seen clearly.
- The sonographer will place a water-soluble gel on your leg and firmly press against your skin with a transducer. The transducer is a small hand-held device that resembles a microphone. When the transducer is placed against the skin, an image of the vein is displayed on a screen. The veins are identified and a measurement will be made of blood flow.
- A slight pressure will be applied to your vein to compress it for one part of the exam and it may be lightly squeezed at times to check blood flow.
- You will hear pulse-like noises periodically during your exam when the technologist is checking the blood flow through your veins.

### Will I have pain or discomfort during the test?

You may feel some pressure as the transducer is moved over your leg, but it is mild and lasts for a short period of time. The pressure should not cause any pain. You should tell the sonographer if you are uncomfortable during the test.

## Venous Duplex-Insufficiency

Appointment:

### How long does the Venous Duplex for Insufficiency take?

You will be in the vascular lab for 1-2 hours.

### What should you wear?

- Wear loose fitted clothing and undergarments that is easy to remove.
- **Do NOT** wear compression stockings

### Specific Preparation:

- **Do NOT** apply cologne, perfume, body lotions, or powder.
- Take all medications as prescribed.

### When will you know the results of your test?

The images from the test will be reviewed by a board certified cardiologist. The results of the test will be sent to the doctor that ordered the test for you. The test results will also be sent to your family doctor. It may take 3 to 4 days before you know the results of your test. The technologist that is performing your test will not give you the results of the test after he or she finishes taking the pictures.

### Important Billing Information

If you are unable to keep your testing appointment, you must contact UnityPoint Health-Cardiology Clinic 24 hours prior to your test time. Scheduled testing appointments that are missed or cancelled without the 24 hour advance notice may be subject to charges for pharmaceuticals or supplies specifically ordered for your test.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_