

# Limited Doppler Ultrasound



## What is a Limited Doppler Ultrasound?

Ultrasound imaging or sonography uses sound waves to produce pictures of the inside of the body. Ultrasound exams do not use radiation. Ultrasound images are captured in real-time so they can show the structure and movement of the body's internal organs, as well as blood flowing through blood vessels.

It is an ultrasound examination with doppler and color flow of the liver vasculature, the superior mesenteric artery (SMA), or the renal arteries.

## CPT Code

93975	complete study of venous outflow and arterial inflow
93976	limited to part of an organ or follow up of a limited area

## Indications

SMA	post-prandial pain
liver	hepatitis, cirrhosis, elevated LFT's
renal artery	new onset or uncontrolled hypertension, renal insufficiency

## Contraindications

none

## How Does Your Patient Prepare?

No patient preparation is required.

For superior mesenteric artery (SMA) tests, your patient will be asked to drink a fatty meal (ensure) when he arrives.

Images will be taken at 15 to 20 minute timed intervals.

## **What Happens During the Test?**

Our technician will obtain a detailed medical history. Your patient will be asked to lie down on an examination table. The technician will place a clear gel on his abdomen. The sonographer (ultrasound technologist) or radiologist then presses the transducer against the skin and sweeps it back and forth over the abdomen. The transducer is a small hand-held device that resembles a microphone, attached to an ultrasound machine by a cord. When the transducer is placed against the skin, an image of the area of concern and color flow is shown on a video screen. For SMA tests, periodic images are taken at 15 to 20 minute timed intervals.

The exam takes approximately 30 minutes to complete.

## **After the Test**

After the exam the gel is wiped off. Your patient may resume normal activities.

## **The Results**

A radiologist will analyze the images and send a signed report to the referring physician within 1 business day.

(Information adapted from [www.radiologyinfo.org](http://www.radiologyinfo.org) and Dr. Jill Westercamp)

*This manual is intended for use as merely a guideline for referring physicians and their staff only. It contains information pertaining to the most commonly ordered exams and indications. However, Iowa Radiology does not recommend any particular examination. Individual radiologist preference or patient circumstances may dictate ordering alternative studies. Although contrast codes are not needed to place an order, the following contrast codes may be used in placing orders: CT Contrast Q9967, MRI contrast A9577 and A9579.*