**WHAT IS IT?** This test is done to evaluate potential disease of the carotid arteries – located in the neck and the main supplier of blood to the brain. A sticky substance called plaque can develop, narrowing the arteries and reducing blood flow. This can lead to clot formation, which can break off and travel to the brain, causing a stroke. Some risk factors for carotid artery disease include: smoking, diabetes, high blood pressure or cholesterol, family history, and obesity.

CAROTID DUPLEX

**HOW DOES THIS TEST WORK?** When you arrive for your test the technologist will explain the procedure in detail, and answer any questions you may have. You will lie on the examination bed, and the ultrasound will be performed. The technologist will apply warm gel to the area being tested, then the ultrasound transducer (small microphone-like device) will be placed over the area being tested. The test will take approximately 30-45 minutes.



**WHERE DO I GO FOR MY TEST?** 1900 23rd St., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223. Come to Entrance 5 in the back of the hospital 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment time. Proceed to the **CARDIOVASCULAR** department for registration and testing. There is also a sign beside the door that reads Diagnostic Center.

Please bring your order, photo ID, all insurance cards, and a list of medications you are currently taking.

 **PREPARING FOR YOUR TEST:**

* No fasting is required for this test.
* If you take medications, please do so as usual.
* Bring a list of current medications, as well as the dosages of each.

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?** The study will be read by a vascular surgeon, and results will be sent to the ordering physician and PCP (if different than the ordering Dr.) within 48 hours; however, it may take additional time to be reviewed and scanned into your record once received by your doctor’s office, so we recommend allowing 4-5 days prior to contacting your doctor for results. If you would like a copy of your test results you can complete a ‘Release of Information’ request when you register for your test, and results will be mailed upon completion of the report.

Thank you for choosing Western Reserve Hospital for your healthcare. We look forward to serving you! Please contact the Cardiovascular Lab with any questions at (330) 971-7426. If you need to cancel your test, please contact Central Scheduling at (330) 971-7496.

****