**WHAT IS IT?** This is a non-invasive diagnostic study to evaluate circulation in the arms or legs. The PVR is performed for symptoms including pain with walking (claudication), cold extremities, or to assess PAD, atherosclerosis, or Raynaud’s phenomenon of either the arms or legs.

ARTERIAL DOPPLER (PVR)

**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. There are three sections to the study. In the first, Doppler waveforms are obtained using warm gel and an ultrasound probe. In the second phase of the test, blood pressure cuffs are placed down the arms or legs and inflated slightly while recordings are taken. In the third phase of the test, the blood pressure cuffs are inflated similar to having an arm blood pressure taken, and additional recordings are taken.

If your physician ordered the test “with exercise”, you will walk on a treadmill for five minutes maximum, and some final measurements are taken. This portion is performed to confirm or rule out claudication.

If your physician ordered the test “with immersions”, the basic test above will be performed, and then your hands or feet will be immersed in cold water, measurements will be taken, and then the extremities will be warmed back to baseline.



**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 with you.

**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.

**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.