



VASCULAR ULTRASOUND SCREENINGS

ANKLE BRACHIAL INDEX (ABI)

What it does: The ABI is a simple test which identifies peripheral artery disease (PAD) in the lower extremities. An abnormal ABI strongly correlates with coronary heart disease and strokes. This simple test will help determine what preventative measures need to be applied to treat your condition.

How is it done: We place blood pressure cuffs on the ankles and arms and perform ratios to calculate the ABI.

CAROTID ULTRASOUND

What it does: A carotid ultrasound allows physicians to visualize plaque in the carotid arteries. Plaque deposits in these arteries are a leading risk factor for stroke. The carotid arteries are the main blood supply to the brain.

How is it done: An ultrasound transducer is moved around the neck as the technologies sees and obtains images.

ABDOMINAL ULTRASOUND

What it does: Abdominal ultrasound is used to identify an abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA). The aorta is the largest artery in the body, traveling from your heart to the level of the navel. Medical conditions, such as high blood pressure and fatty plaque buildup, can weaken the walls of the aorta, causing an enlargement. AAA's are typically asymptomatic and early detection can lead to the appropriate treatment. Left untreated, the mortality rate is extremely high.

How is it done: An ultrasound transducer is moved around the abdomen to measure the diameter of the aorta and iliac arteries.

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