



ENDOLUMINAL REPAIR

WHAT IS VASCULAR ULTRASOUND?

Ultrasound is a non-invasive test that helps your doctor diagnose and treat your medical problem. By using very high frequency sound waves the ultrasound machine can form images of the inside of your body. For vascular ultrasound this involves creating images of the blood vessels within your body.

WHY?

If you have had a repair of the aorta then your doctor may ask for you to have it checked regularly for surveillance. Alternatively if your doctor suspects that there may be any complications with the repair it will need it to be investigated with ultrasound.

WHAT CLOTHES DO I HAVE TO TAKE OFF?

For this scan you will need to lift your shirt and lower your trousers/skirt and underwear so that we can get easy access to your abdomen between your ribs and your hips.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AND WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE SCAN?

The aorta is the main artery that takes the blood from the heart to the lower half of your body. After it has been repaired there is a small risk that the graft material which was used to do the repair, could become detached from the artery wall or degrade. We will check to see that the aneurysm has not changed in size and that we cannot detect any leaks from the graft. We will ask you to lie flat on the bed. Because these arteries can be deep it may be necessary for the sonographer to press quite firmly on your abdomen.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

About 45 minutes.

