

LOWER EXTREMITY VENOUS DUPLEX EXAMINATION PROTOCOL FOR EVALUATION WITH GOALS OF KEEPING THE PATIENT

of the lower extremity deep venous system (common femoral vein, deep femoral vein, superficial femoral vein, popliteal vein, peroneal veins and posterior tibial veins).

COMMON INDICATIONS:

PUBLISHED INDICATIONS:

- The indications for peripheral venous ultrasound examinations include, but are not limited to:
1. Evaluation of possible venous thromboembolism (VTE) or venous obstruction (VVO) in the lower extremity deep venous system (DVT) in the following situations:
 - a. Suspected VTE or VVO in the lower extremity.
 - b. Suspected VTE or VVO in the lower extremity in the setting of a medical procedure.
 - c. Suspected VTE or VVO in the lower extremity in the setting of a medical procedure.
 2. Evaluation of venous anatomy for vascular mapping for preoperative planning of dialysis access.
 3. Evaluation of veins prior to venous access.
 4. Follow-up for patients with known venous thrombosis near the anticipated end of anticoagulation to determine if residual venous thrombosis is present.

PATIENT COMMUNICATION AND POSITIONING:

Upon arrival in the vascular department, the patient should be made comfortable and relaxed with their surroundings. The sonographer should give the patient an introduction and explain the procedure as well as verify physician order and appropriate patient history. The patient should be positioned supine with the lower extremity to be examined in a dependent position. The patient should be positioned in a supine position with the lower extremity to be examined in a dependent position. The patient should be positioned in a supine position with the lower extremity to be examined in a dependent position.

PATIENT ASSESSMENT:

Obtain a medical history and physical examination of the lower extremity to be examined. The sonographer should assess for any signs of VTE or VVO in the lower extremity to be examined. The sonographer should assess for any signs of VTE or VVO in the lower extremity to be examined.

EXAMINATION GUIDELINES:

1. The sonographer should select the appropriate probe on the right and left lower extremities and perform a complete examination of the lower extremity deep venous system (DVT) in the following situations:
 - a. Suspected VTE or VVO in the lower extremity.
 - b. Suspected VTE or VVO in the lower extremity in the setting of a medical procedure.
 - c. Suspected VTE or VVO in the lower extremity in the setting of a medical procedure.
2. Complete examination of the peripheral venous system includes bilateral evaluation of the OFV, Deep FV, Superficial FV, Popliteal Vein, Peroneal Veins and Posterior Tibial Veins. Limited exams performed for this testing category must include imaging with a Doppler of the entire venous system. The lower extremity venous system is imaged from the groin to the ankle including the common femoral vein and the superficial femoral vein. The entire venous system is imaged from the groin to the ankle including the common femoral vein and the superficial femoral vein. The entire venous system is imaged from the groin to the ankle including the common femoral vein and the superficial femoral vein.
3. PW Doppler Color Doppler images will also be utilized to assess for areas of complete occlusion and to locate deep and tortuous vessels.
4. PW Doppler waveforms must be obtained from representative locations throughout the vessel, as listed on the image protocol. Doppler waveforms should be utilized to assess for normal flow, flow acceleration, and flow deceleration. Doppler waveforms should be utilized to assess for normal flow, flow acceleration, and flow deceleration. Doppler waveforms should be utilized to assess for normal flow, flow acceleration, and flow deceleration.
5. All studies are digitally recorded and include, but not limited to: Gray scale image of the OFV, Deep FV, Superficial FV, Popliteal Vein, Peroneal Veins and Posterior Tibial Veins in the lower extremity venous system. Doppler waveforms should be obtained from the OFV, Deep FV, Superficial FV, Popliteal Vein, Peroneal Veins and Posterior Tibial Veins in the lower extremity venous system. Doppler waveforms should be obtained from the OFV, Deep FV, Superficial FV, Popliteal Vein, Peroneal Veins and Posterior Tibial Veins in the lower extremity venous system.
6. When available, previous studies should be obtained for comparison.
7. Present record of diagnostic images, data, explanations, and technical worksheet to the interpreting physician for use in rendering a diagnosis and for archival purposes.

Suggested Image Protocol: Lower Extremity Venous Duplex (DVT Protocol)

1. Trans CD/GSV/vein (Femoral) section with and without compression
Long SFV Proximal with and without compression
Long SFV Mid with and without compression
Long SFV Distal with and without compression
Long POP with and without compression
Long POP with PV Doppler (include distal augmentation maneuver)
6. Long SFV Proximal with Color
7. Trans SFV mid with and without compression
8. Long SFV Mid with Color
9. Trans SFV Distal with and without compression
Long POP Distal with and without compression
Long POP with and without compression
13. Long POP with PV Doppler (include distal augmentation maneuver)
14. Trans proximal calf vessels with and without compression – Include posterior tibial gastrocnemius, soleus, anterior tibial and peroneal veins, as well as any perforator vessels when accessible and anatomically indicated.

NOTE: *Long POP Doppler images should include distal augmentation maneuvers when no DVT is seen and/or suspected.*

- *If DVT is noted during compression, DO NOT augment the blood flow. Demonstrate resting flow with color and PW Doppler images.*

When a proximal DVT is noted, be sure to image the popliteal and VC.

SAMPLE ONLY

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Suggested Image List: Lower Extremity Venous Duplex (Insufficiency Protocol)

1. Trans CFV with and without compression
 2. Long SFV with Color
 3. Long SFV Proximal with and without augmentation maneuvers
 4. Trans SFV Proximal with and without compression
 5. Long SFV Proximal with Color
 6. Long SFV Proximal with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers)
 7. Trans SFV Mid with and without compression
 8. Long SFV Mid with Color
 9. Trans SFV Mid with and without compression
 10. Long SFV Mid with Color
 11. Long SFV Distal with and without compression
 12. Long SFV Distal with Color
 13. Long SFV Distal with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers)
 14. Long POP with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers)
 15. Trans Proximal calf vessels with and without compression
 16. Trans PTV with and without compression
 17. Long PTV with Color
 18. Long PTV Distal with Color
 19. Long PTV Distal with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers)
 20. Trans Distal calf vessels with and without compression
 21. Trans GSV Distal with and without compression
 22. Trans GSV Distal with Color
 23. Long GSV Proximal with Color - Color images must be documented at lower levels if reflux is not noted initially at proximal segment
 24. Long GSV Proximal with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers) - PW Doppler waveforms must be documented at lower levels if reflux is not noted initially at proximal segment
 25. Trans GSV distal with and without compression
 26. Long LSV Proximal with Color
 27. Long LSV Proximal with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers)
 28. 2D/Color/PW Documentation of any perforating veins if indicated
 29. 2D/Color/PW Documentation and measurements of varicosities and any anastomoses if indicated
- All PW Doppler images should include distal augmentation maneuvers when no DVT is seen.*
- Proximal augmentation and valsalva maneuvers must be utilized with PW Doppler as necessary to prove insufficiency of vessels.
 - If DVT is noted at any location, DO NOT augment distal flow. Documentate reflux without augmentation maneuvers.
 - If the patient has DVT, include venous flow images at the vein level.

LOWER EXTREMITY VENOUS DUPLEX EXAMINATION PROTOCOL FOR EVALUATION & DIAGNOSIS OF VENOUS MAPPING PROCEDURES

INDICATIONS:

• Evaluation of the lower extremity venous system including superficial femoral vein, popliteal vein, posterior tibial veins and posterior tibial veins, greater saphenous vein, lesser saphenous vein and superficial venous system.

COMMON INDICATIONS:

• Limb pain
• Swelling
• Venous insufficiency
• Venous stasis
• Venous thrombosis
• Venous procedures (vein graft, vein harvest, venous ablation)

PUBLISHED INDICATIONS:

The indications for peripheral venous ultrasound examinations include, but are not limited to:
1. Evaluation of possible venous thrombosis in the lower extremities in patients with risk factors for venous thrombosis, including surgery, trauma, immobilization, and other risk factors.
2. Evaluation of venous insufficiency in patients with symptoms of venous insufficiency.
3. Evaluation of venous anatomy in patients with symptoms of venous insufficiency.
4. Evaluation of venous anatomy in patients with symptoms of venous insufficiency.
5. Evaluation of veins prior to venous access.
6. Follow-up for patients with known venous thrombosis near the anticoagulated end of anticoagulation to determine if residual venous thrombosis is present.

• Evaluation of venous anatomy in patients with symptoms of venous insufficiency.
• Evaluation of venous anatomy in patients with symptoms of venous insufficiency.

PREPARATION AND POSITIONING:

Upon arrival in the vascular department, the patient should be made comfortable and relaxed with their surroundings. The sonographer should give the patient an introduction and explain the procedure as well as verify physician order and appropriate indication for exam. The patient should be positioned in a supine position with the leg to be examined in a flexed position. The patient should be positioned in a supine position with the leg to be examined in a flexed position. The patient should be positioned in a supine position with the leg to be examined in a flexed position.

PATIENT ASSESSMENT:

Patient assessment must be completed before the examination is performed. The sonographer should obtain a history of the patient's symptoms and any previous medical history. The sonographer should obtain a history of the patient's symptoms and any previous medical history.

EXAMINATION GUIDELINES:

The examination should be performed in a supine position with the leg to be examined in a flexed position. The examination should be performed in a supine position with the leg to be examined in a flexed position.

- Ultrasound coupling gel is placed on the patient's leg on the side to be examined.
- Complete examination of the peripheral venous system includes bilateral evaluation of the CPV, Deep FV, Superficial FV, Popliteal Vein, Posterior Vein and Tibial Vein. Limited exams are acceptable for testing of the lower extremity venous system. The sonographer should be able to identify the venous system and should allow for the entire peripheral venous system.
- Color Doppler images must be documented at listed sample locations. Color Doppler images should be obtained to determine the characteristics of thrombus formation and disease present (i.e. homogeneous or heterogeneous thrombus, Baker's cyst formation, lymph nodes). The entire vessel length must be examined in order to exclude the presence of DVT. If pathology is present, appearance, location, extent, severity, and residual lumen should be documented. Additional pathology should be documented. Baker's cysts should be documented and measured. The entire length of the vessel should be examined. Color Doppler images should be obtained at listed sample locations. Color Doppler images should be obtained at listed sample locations.
- Color Doppler images must be documented at listed sample locations. Color Doppler images should be obtained to determine the characteristics of thrombus formation and disease present (i.e. homogeneous or heterogeneous thrombus, Baker's cyst formation, lymph nodes). The entire vessel length must be examined in order to exclude the presence of DVT. If pathology is present, appearance, location, extent, severity, and residual lumen should be documented. Additional pathology should be documented. Baker's cysts should be documented and measured. The entire length of the vessel should be examined. Color Doppler images should be obtained at listed sample locations. Color Doppler images should be obtained at listed sample locations.
- PW Doppler waveforms must be obtained from representative locations throughout the vessel, as listed on the image protocol. Doppler waveforms will be utilized to assess for normal variations in hemodynamics, to evaluate for venous insufficiency and for identification of possible stenosis. PW Doppler waveforms should be obtained at listed sample locations. PW Doppler waveforms should be obtained at listed sample locations.

PRESENTATION AND EXAM FINDINGS:

- Preliminary technical notes on the exam include interpretation of all Doppler velocity data. The following are not included: Spectral analysis of CFV, SFV, IJV, PIV, PSV, Popliteal Vein, Peroneal Veins and Posterior Tibial Veins in the longitudinal plane; Spectral analysis samples taken throughout the CFV and Popliteal Vein, with distal and proximal augmentation procedures and/or Valsalva maneuvers.
- In addition to deep venous structures, the examination must include documentation of superficial venous structures including the Great and Lesser Saphenous Veins. Documentation of any reflux is to be done in a similar manner as for the deep veins. In addition, the following information is to be included:
 - Venous reflux time (seconds)
 - Venous reflux distance (cm)
 - Venous reflux volume (ml)
- Present record of diagnostic images, data, explanations, and technical worksheet to the interpreting physician for use in rendering a diagnosis and for archival purposes.

EXAMINATION PROCEDURE:

1. Trans CFV with and without compression
2. Long CFV with Color
3. Long CFV with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers)
4. Trans SFV and DFV proximal with and without compression
5. Trans SFV Distal with and without compression
6. Long SFV Distal with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers)
7. Long SFV Mid with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers)
8. Long SFV Mid with Color
9. Long SFV Mid with Color
10. Trans SFV Distal with and without compression
11. Long SFV Distal with PW Color
12. Trans PIV proximal with and without compression
13. Long PIV proximal with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers)
14. Trans PIV with and without compression
15. Long PIV with Color
16. Long CFV/GSV Junction with Color
17. Long CFV/GSV Junction with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers)
18. Trans GSV Distal with and without compression-obtain diameter measurements
19. Long GSV Distal with and without compression-obtain diameter measurements
20. Long GSV Distal with and without compression-obtain diameter measurements
21. Long GSV Proximal with Color - Color images must be documented at lower levels if reflux is not noted initially at proximal segment.
22. Trans GSV Distal with and without compression-obtain diameter measurements
23. Long GSV Proximal with Color - Color images must be documented at lower levels if reflux is not noted initially at proximal segment.
24. Long GSV Proximal with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers) - PW Doppler velocity must be documented at lower levels if reflux is not noted initially at proximal segment.
25. Long GSV Distal with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers) - PW Doppler velocity must be documented at lower levels if reflux is not noted initially at proximal segment.
26. Long LSV Proximal with PW Doppler (with augmentation maneuvers)
27. Long LSV Distal with and without compression
28. Long LSV Distal with and without compression
29. 2D/Color/PW Documentation of any perforator veins as indicated
30. Color PW Documentation and measurements of perforator veins as indicated

- NOTE:**
- All PW Doppler images should include distal augmentation maneuvers when no DVT is seen.
 - Proximal augmentation and Valsalva maneuvers must be utilized in conjunction with PW Doppler to increase the probability of detecting reflux.
 - Color images should be taken at the same level as the Doppler images.
 - DO NOT document resting blood flow. Demonstrate resting flow with Doppler images.
 - If there is extensive DVT, it may be necessary to image the Iliac vessels and IVC.