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## **You have been booked to have a CIMT study at Vascular West**

Your doctor has asked for a carotid intima medial thickness (CIMT) study. The test gives us important information about your carotid arteries.

A CIMT (carotid intima medial thickness) study is an ultrasound test of the carotid arteries in your neck to measure the size and in particular the thickness of the lining inside the artery.

The test gives your referring doctor a rapid, low risk and non-invasive way of assessing your risk of developing heart disease. A CIMT study can take up to 45 minutes to perform, however in most instances will be completed in 15 minutes. You will be asked to lie flat and an ultrasound probe and gel will be applied to your neck. Ultrasound used for the purpose of diagnostic values is completely harmless. Ultrasound is also completely painless although probe pressure may cause some minor discomfort.

The sonographer will take all appropriate measurements and these will be forwarded to our specialist cardiologist for interpretation and finalising. If atherosclerosis (hardening of the arteries) is found, then a full carotid study report will be completed by the sonographer and finalised by one of our vascular surgeons. This will then be sent to your referring doctor and/or GP within 48 hours.

If you have any questions regarding the test, or would like more information please call our office on 9381 7772. **Please make sure you bring the referral from your doctor to the appointment or check with the reception staff prior to the appointment that we have a copy.**