ULTRASOUND PROTOCOLS



Reviewed: 01/11/2024; 01/12/23; 01/29/22; 10/30/20

Carotid Ultrasound Protocol Guideline

Indication	Bruit, stenosis, TIA, CVA, syncope, lack of coordination
Prep	Patient supine
Procedure	Grayscale – Longitudinal and Transverse
	CCA Prox, Mid, and Distal
	Carotid bulb
	• ECA
	• ICA
	Color Doppler – Longitudinal
	CCA Prox, Mid, and Distal
	Carotid bulb
	• ECA
	• ICA
	Vertebral
	Color Spectral Doppler – Longitudinal
	 CCA Prox, Mid, and Distal – Enter the Distal CCA into the ratio
	 ICA Prox, Mid, and Distal — Enter the highest PSV and EDV into the ratio
	• ECA
	Vertebral
	Note: All PSV measurements on spectral tracings must be obtained using an angle < 60°. If
	following up on a stenosis, use the same angle that was used previously. Remember to angle with the jet and not the vessel wall.
	Additional Images:
	 If a stenosis is detected, obtain velocities proximal to, at, and distal to stenosis. ***
	If vertebral waveforms indicate vertebral steal, take additional images of the subclavian
	artery looking for a stenosis.