

# ULTRASOUND PROTOCOLS



Reviewed: 1/5/2026; 1/10/2025; 01/11/2024; 01/12/23; 01/29/22; 10/30/20

## Carotid Ultrasound Protocol Guideline

<b>Indication</b>	Bruit, stenosis, TIA, CVA, syncope, lack of coordination
<b>Prep</b>	Patient supine
<b>Procedure</b>	<p><b>Grayscale – Longitudinal and Transverse</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CCA Prox, Mid, and Distal</li><li>• Carotid bulb</li><li>• ECA</li><li>• ICA</li></ul> <p><b>Color Doppler – Longitudinal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CCA Prox, Mid, and Distal</li><li>• Carotid bulb</li><li>• ECA</li><li>• ICA</li><li>• Vertebral</li></ul> <p><b>Color Spectral Doppler – Longitudinal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CCA Prox, Mid, and Distal – Enter the Distal CCA into the ratio</li><li>• ICA Prox, Mid, and Distal – Enter the highest PSV and EDV into the ratio</li><li>• ECA</li><li>• Vertebral</li></ul> <p>Note: All PSV measurements on spectral tracings must be obtained using an angle &lt; 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.</p> <p><b>Additional Images:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If a stenosis is detected, obtain velocities proximal to, at, and distal to stenosis. ***</li><li>• If vertebral waveforms indicate vertebral steal, take additional images of the subclavian artery looking for a stenosis.</li></ul>