

## About deep vein thrombosis scanning

### Why is it important to scan for deep vein thrombosis?

Deep vein thrombosis (DVT) is the formation of a blood clot (thrombosis) within one or more of the deep veins of the leg. These can be a serious threat to your health and if a DVT is diagnosed treatment is required immediately. Symptoms of a DVT include pain and swelling. The scan can show whether there are other problems that are not as serious as a DVT but cause the same symptoms.

### Where do I go?

Vascular Studies, 6th floor - entrance next to 6 west A ward

### Who will I see?

You will be seen by a member of the clinical vascular scientist team, who will perform and interpret your ultrasound scan.

### How do I prepare for the test?

No preparation is required for the test.

You will be asked to remove some of your clothing in order to expose your legs for the scientist to perform the scan.

### What does the test involve?

You lie on the couch, some cold gel is applied to your legs and the scientist scans the area of interest using ultrasound to image the veins.

The test takes about 20-30 minutes. There are no risks or side-effects associated with this test.

### What happens next?

The clinical vascular scientist writes a report of the scan result and informs the doctor who requested the scan. The clinical scientist can comment on the findings. You will be able to discuss the results more fully with the doctor at your next out-patient appointment.

### Do you have any further questions?

Do not hesitate to contact vascular studies 020 7830 2862 and speak to one of our clinical vascular scientists.

**If you would like this information in an alternative format, please ask a member of staff.** © Vascular Studies 2014 [Review date: March 2016]