VEIN MAPPING

Definition:
Ultrasound is a procedure that uses sound waves to "see" inside your body. This procedure is performed to create a "map" of your leg/arm veins/arteries for the surgeon in preparation for various procedures that will include bypass graft surgery (replacing diseased vessels in your body with the healthy vein from your leg/arm). Vein mapping of the upper extremity is performed to determine diameter, length and suitability of the superficial veins of the upper extremity for placement of dialysis access patency of the arteries in your arm.

Why is this test performed?
Vein mapping is performed to assess the availability of vessels prior to creation of a permanent dialysis access in patients with chronic renal failure (CRF).

Risks:
None

How you prepare:
No special preparation is required.

What you can expect:
The technologist will explain your exam and answer any questions you may have. This is a simple and painless test. Your procedure will be performed with you lying on the examination table. Warm gel will be applied to area that is tested (legs/arms). A transducer, (probe) will be placed over various locations. You may hear unusual sounds as the technologist views and records the blood flow of the veins and arteries. The technologist will measure your arm/leg vein; and mark your skin to show the location of your veins. You should not remove these marks. They will be needed by the surgeon. The exam will take approximately 45 minutes to one hour.

Results:
A Vascular surgeon will interpret your test and generate a report. The results will be faxed to the physician who ordered your exam. A copy of the report may be obtained from Health Information Management phone 270-762-1182. Only the patient or Guardian can sign for the report. Please bring a photo ID to pick up records.

Billing:
Murray-Calloway County Hospital will send a bill for performing the exam and the reading Physician will send a bill for reading the test.