



The Sound Medical Building  
1591 Boston Post Road • Guilford, Connecticut 06437  
203-453-5123 • [www.guilfordradiology.com](http://www.guilfordradiology.com)

## PHYSICIAN QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

### Deep Venous Extremity Ultrasound with Doppler Imaging

#### Ordering Information:

The most common reason for a venous ultrasound exam is to search for blood clots, especially in the veins of the leg. This condition is often referred to as deep vein thrombosis or DVT. These clots may break off and pass into the lungs, where they can cause a dangerous condition called pulmonary embolism. If the blood clot in the leg is found early enough, treatment can be started to prevent it from passing to the lung.

A venous ultrasound study is also performed to:

- Find blockages to blood flow (such as clots)
- Determine the cause of long-standing leg swelling. In people with a common condition called varicose veins, the valves that keep blood flowing back to the heart in the right direction may be damaged, and venous ultrasound can help the radiologist decide how best to deal with this condition.
- Map out the veins in the leg or arm so that pieces of vein may be removed and used to bypass a narrowed or blocked blood vessel. An example is using pieces of vein from the leg to surgically bypass narrowed heart (coronary) arteries.
- Examine a blood vessel graft used for dialysis if it is not working as expected; for example, the graft may be narrowed or blocked.

#### Indications

Diagnose deep vein thrombosis (DVT), pain, swelling, edema, postpartum or postsurgical

#### CPT Code

Please identify Arm or Leg and R/L or Bilateral.  
93970 Bilateral  
93971 Unilateral

#### Questions?

Please call Guilford Radiology at (860)453-5123 or West Haven Radiology at (860)934-4482 if you would like to speak with the on-site Radiologist, a technologist for the specific modality in which you are interested, or another member of our team. Or, click here for information on contacting our Physician Liaison Team, who will promptly respond to your questions.

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Information adapted from [www.radiologyinfo.org](http://www.radiologyinfo.org), reviewed and edited by Michael Crain, MD.

*This manual is intended for use as merely a guideline for referring physicians and their staff only. It contains information pertaining to the most commonly ordered exams and indications. RAM Radiology does not recommend any particular examination. Individual radiologist preference or patient medical information may dictate ordering alternative studies.*

Updated: May, 2010



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**Ready to Order a Test for your Patient?**

Click [here](#) for our Requisition Form.

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