



SOCIETY FOR VASCULAR ULTRASOUND

Society for Vascular Ultrasound's Position on the Performance and Reporting of Screening Examinations

The Society for Vascular Ultrasound (SVU) is concerned that there is a lack of standardization regarding the performance and reporting of vascular disease screening services. As the SVU believes that appropriate credentialing (certification) of vascular technologists and accreditation of vascular testing facilities serves to protect the public health, and that public awareness and education are an integral component of the screening process, the SVU Board of Directors has approved the following position statement.

- SVU defines a screening exam as a test performed usually without a physician referral or medical necessity, which is intended to detect disease but not quantify it. Screening exams are not intended to replace diagnostic exams.
- Vascular screening exams should be performed only by physicians or professionals who are credentialed (certified) in the area of testing being performed, and whose experience can assure an accurate examination. Screening should be performed in a facility (lab or hospital) which is accredited.
- A screening report should record only the absence or presence of disease to warrant further diagnostic studies. There should be no attempts to characterize or quantify the disease process.
- The screening exam results should be discussed with the patient by an interpreting physician or by a vascular ultrasound professional with experience in the area of testing being performed.
- Informative education materials on vascular disease should be disseminated to the screening participants.

Established in 1977, the Society for Vascular Ultrasound (SVU) is the only professional organization completely dedicated to the advancement of noninvasive vascular technology used in the diagnosis and treatment of vascular disease.

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