

## **Vein Mapping Ultrasound (Upper or Lower Limb)**

### **What:**

An ultrasound scan to assess the superficial veins in the arms and/or legs for their size, whether they are patent and if they have any thrombus (clot).

### **Why:**

For planning purposes for certain surgical procedures such as an AV fistula for dialysis or a CABG (coronary bypass). The most appropriate vein found on the ultrasound scan is then used in the required surgery.

### **Involves:**

- The scan is performed in a private ultrasound room where a sonographer will explain the scan and answer any questions you may have.
- You will be asked to remove clothing covering the lower legs, i.e. shorts/pants, and/or clothing covering your arms i.e. jumpers. Underwear, singlets and bras will be kept on.
- You will be asked to lie down on an examination bed.
- An ultrasound probe and some gel will be placed on the limb to be scanned.
- Occasionally some compression either by the ultrasound probe or by the sonographer's hand will be performed to check the blood flow within the vein.

The results will be sent to the referring Doctor who will discuss and explain the outcome to you.