OVERVIEW: Ultrasound imaging, also known as sonography, uses sound waves to produce images of the organs, vessels and tissues in the body. You should wear comfortable clothing on the day of your examination. You may or may not be asked to put on a hospital gown depending upon your procedure.

SCROTUM: To evaluate the testes and epididymis for things such as masses, torsion, hydroceles, etc.

PREP: None.

PROCEDURE: The sonographer will position you on an examination table and apply a special gel to your skin directly above the area being studied. The sonographer will move a device called a transducer over the gel-covered skin. The transducer sends out sound waves and receives echoes. These echoes are relayed to a computer for processing and displayed on a monitor as a picture for the sonographer to view. You may hear various sounds during a portion of the exam. This is called Doppler ultrasound, which is a special application that detects blood flow within the scrotal contents. Selected pictures will be saved on film and given to a radiologist for interpretation.

RESULTS: After your ultrasound images have been reviewed by a radiologist, your ordering physician will contact you with the results in approximately 3 days. Your physician then will advise you of the results and discuss what further procedures, if any, are needed.