



## Radiology Views™ Newsletter – February 2010

### Documentation Requirements of Reporting Duplex Scans in Addition to Diagnostic Ultrasound Studies

2010 CPT instructions for diagnostic (conventional) ultrasound state:

- “Evaluation of vascular structures using both color and spectral Doppler is separately reportable (in addition to diagnostic ultrasound).”
- “However, color Doppler alone, when performed for anatomic structure identification in conjunction with a real-time ultrasound examination, is not reported separately.”

So when a duplex scan is ordered and performed in addition to a diagnostic ultrasound, to ensure you appropriately get credit for both studies, you must include in your documentation an evaluation of each of the following:

- ✓ The requirements of the diagnostic ultrasound
- ✓ Doppler spectral analysis
- ✓ Color flow Doppler imaging

Documentation requirements for duplex scans require an evaluation of both color flow imaging and spectral analysis.

**If you have any questions on this or other documentation and coding topics, please call or email Wendy Block, at 330.564.2618 or [wblock@prcmedical.com](mailto:wblock@prcmedical.com).**