

**From “Dr. Gott”**  
**Nationally syndicated medical Q &A column**  
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Dear Dr. Gott: I'm a 73-year-old male. I get fliers in my newspaper every couple of months for Life Line Screening and have forwarded one to you for your comments. Are the tests offered worth the money, and do they do a good job?

Dear Reader: These fliers are extremely useful in directing you to testing offered in your area. The services are offered at a fraction of the cost charged by your local hospital or health care center. The flier you sent me publicizes screening for carotid artery stenosis (a common cause of stroke), abdominal aortic aneurysm (a potentially fatal thinning and ballooning of the major artery feeding the lower body), osteoporosis and peripheral vascular disease (arterial blockages in the legs).

I encourage you to take part in the program unless you have had recent, similar testing performed. All procedures offered are noninvasive, painless screenings using Doppler ultrasound technology.

Should you have any abnormal readings, I recommend you take the reports to your primary-care physician for interpretation and possible follow-up.

Write to Dr. Gott c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th fl., New York, NY 10016.