

Procedure Information: Abdominal Ultrasound

What is an Ultrasound of the Abdomen?

An ultrasound is a procedure using sound waves to image the abdominal area and evaluate the organs and blood vessels in that region of the body. Ultrasound procedures are painless, risk free with no side effects

When is an Ultrasound of the Abdomen ordered?

Help determine cause or reason for pain in your abdomen or abnormal blood work. Some of the organs and blood vessels we image are;

Blood Vessels: Inferior Vena Cava and Aorta

Organs: Liver, Pancreas, Kidneys, Gallbladder and Spleen

Patient Preparation

Patients should not eat or drink for 8 hours prior to the test. If you are on medications you can take the medication with 1 or 2 ounces of water

Length of Procedure

Total time in the department, includes registration and imaging is approximately 30 minutes

What Happens During a Ultrasound of the Abdomen?

A registered ultrasound technologist will first verify your identity and explain the procedure. You will be escorted into the imaging room and asked to lie on your back. The ultrasound technologist will apply a gel to your skin. The gel is water based and will not irritate your skin or stain your clothing. The technologist will then place the transducer on you abdomen and adjust its position to image. In order to take high quality images the technologist may have to press on your abdomen. Most patients do not find this uncomfortable.

After the procedure is complete a board certified radiologist will interpret your scan.

The results will be sent to your physician