

# Procedure Information: Transvaginal Ultrasound

## What is a Transvaginal Ultrasound?

An ultrasound is a procedure using sound waves to image the pelvic organs. Ultrasound procedures are typically painless, risk free with no side effects.

## When are Transvaginal Ultrasounds ordered?

Evaluate pain, abnormal menses or post menopausal bleeding

During pregnancy:

This test is ordered in the first trimester to determine fetus's size and viability (heart tone) and confirm dates.

Measuring Cervical length: For pain, pressure, history of cervical surgeries or preterm loss of amniotic fluids

If there is bleeding during surgery this test may be ordered to determine the cause of the bleeding

## Patient Preparation

There is no preparation for this test

## Length of Procedure

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

## What Happens During a Transvaginal Ultrasound?

A registered ultrasound technologist will first verify your identity and explain the procedure. You will be asked to empty your bladder completely, and to remove clothing from waist down and change into a hospital gown. You will be escorted into the imaging room and positioned on your back and legs placed in stirrups. The technologist will cover the transvaginal probe with a sterile, latex free cover and lubricate it with gel. The probe will then be inserted into your vagina and carefully moved to document images. Some patients may be uncomfortable but not typically in pain. After the procedure is complete a board certified radiologist will interpret your scan. The results will be sent to your physician.