

Ultrasound Tests and Procedures

The following tests and procedures are performed in the X-Ray department. Please look below for a brief description of the exam, information on patient preparation (what you must do before your appointment) and the time needed for the test.

Your doctor may also give you information and preparation instructions for you to follow.

- Abdomen
- Abdominal Aorta
- Biopsy or Aspiration
- Breast
- Carotid Arteries
- Female Pelvis
- Kidneys
- Leg Veins / Arm Veins
- Musculoskeletal
- Neonatal Abdomen
- Neonatal Head
- Obstetrics - First trimester
- Obstetrics - 2nd and 3rd Trimester
- Scrotum
- Thyroid

Abdomen

Description:

- Examination of organs in the upper abdomen, including the liver, spleen, pancreas, kidneys, gallbladder, and aorta.

Patient Preparation:

- Nothing to eat or drink for 6 hours prior to test. Medication can be taken with a small amount of water.

Examination Time:

- 30 to 45 minutes

Abdominal Aorta

Description:

- Examination of abdominal aorta.

Patient Preparation:

- Nothing to eat or drink for 6 hours prior to test. Medication can be taken with a small amount of water.

Examination Time:

- 30 minutes

Biopsy or Aspiration

Description:

- Biopsy: Using ultrasound as a guide, a radiologist uses a thin needle to take a small piece of body tissue. A slightly larger needle is used in a core biopsy to get a larger tissue sample.
- Aspiration: Similar to a biopsy, but this procedure collects fluids.

Patient Preparation:

- Blood tests are required. You may have to stop taking blood thinners or Aspirin for one week. Your doctor will inform you of any special instructions. Nothing to eat or drink 6 hours prior to test.

Examination Time:

- 30 to 45 minutes. Be prepared to stay at hospital for observation for up to 6 hours.

Breast

Description:

- Examination of the breast or breasts.

Patient Preparation:

- No preparation.

Examination Time:

- 30 minutes

Carotid Arteries

Description:

- None

Patient Preparation:

- No preparation. Please do not wear turtleneck shirts, necklaces, or high collars to your test.

Examination Time:

- 45 minutes

Female Pelvis

Description:

- Examination of the female pelvis. This is a two-part test. The first part is a lower abdominal (transvesical) scan. After voiding, we may continue with an internal scan (endovaginal).

Patient Preparation:

- 500 ml (16 oz.) of water one hour prior to the test. Do not empty your bladder. You will be asked about your menstrual history. Please know your dates.

Examination Time:

- 45 minutes

Kidneys

Description:

- Examination of the kidneys and bladder. For males, measurements of the prostate are included.

Patient Preparation:

- 500 ml (16 oz.) of water one hour prior to the test. Do not empty your bladder.

Examination Time:

- 30 minutes

Leg Veins / Arm Veins

Description:

- Examination of the major veins in the leg or arm for blood clots.

Patient Preparation:

- No preparation.

Examination Time:

- 30 minutes per limb

Musculoskeletal

Description:

- Examination of the muscles, tendons, ligaments, joints, and soft tissues.

Patient Preparation:

- No preparation.

Examination Time:

- 30 minutes

Neonatal Abdomen

Description:

- Examination of the upper abdomen, including liver, spleen, kidneys, gallbladder, pancreas, and aorta.

Patient Preparation:

- We do not want to schedule right after a feeding. An emptier stomach will give us a better study.

Examination Time:

- 30 minutes

Neonatal Head

Description:

- Examination of the internal brain anatomy.

Patient Preparation:

- No preparation.

Examination Time:

- 30 minutes

Obstetrics - First trimester

Description:

- Examination of early pregnancy. This is a two-part test. The first part is a lower abdominal (transvesical) scan. The second part is an internal scan (endovaginal).

Patient Preparation:

- 500 ml (16 oz.) of water one hour prior to the test. Do not empty your bladder.

Examination Time:

- 45 minutes

Obstetrics - 2nd and 3rd Trimester

Description:

- Examination of a pregnancy from 13 to 40 weeks. This involves a lower abdominal (transvesical) scan.

Patient Preparation:

- 500 ml (16 oz.) of water one hour prior to the test. Do not empty your bladder.

Examination Time:

- 40 to 60 minutes

Scrotum

Description:

- Examination of the scrotum and testicles.

Patient Preparation:

- No preparation.

Examination Time:

- 30 minutes

Thyroid

Description:

- Examination of the thyroid gland, which is located in the neck.

Patient Preparation:

- No preparation. Please do not wear turtleneck shirts, necklaces, or high collars to your test.

Examination Time:

- 30 minutes