

Prepare for an Ultrasound (Sonography)

Ultrasound imaging, also called ultrasound scanning or sonography, involves exposing part of the body to high-frequency sound waves to produce pictures of the inside of the body.

Patient Safety Tips Prior to a Diagnostic Exam in Radiology

- Please let us know if you have any allergies or adverse reactions to medications.
- Please leave your valuables at home or in your room in the hospital.
- Please let us now if you need interpreting services, this can be arranged for you.
- Late arrival policy: If you are more than 15 minutes late for your appointment there is a possibility you may not be seen possibly rescheduled for your examination. Being seen for your appointment will be left to the discretion of your provider based on the nature of your concern and the schedule of the provider.

Preparation for the Exam

- The preparation for this test will depend on the type of ultrasound procedure your doctor has ordered. Some preparations include drinking a quart of water before the test to obtain better images. Your doctor will instruct you.

During the Exam

- The technologist will verify your identification and exam requested.
- The duration of the exam will vary, but the average is about 30-60 minutes.
- The technologist will position you on the exam table and give you instructions.
- You will have the opportunity to ask the technologists questions.
- A small amount of water-soluble gel is applied to the skin over the area to be examined.
- A hand-held instrument is placed against the gel on your body. This instrument will be moved across the area being examined.

After the Exam

- If you are going home, you may resume normal activities.
- Your provider will give you the results usually within a few days.

Ultrasound screening for abdominal Aneurysm

- Based on the various risk factors, many health care organizations recommend that men 65 to 75 who are or were smokers get screened for an abdominal aortic aneurysm. Men and women who have a family history of the disease might need to begin screening earlier. Currently, the data to screen women with a previous smoking history is inconclusive in terms of screening for an abdominal aortic aneurysm.