

What is ultrasound and how does it work?

Ultrasound uses sound waves and a computer to create images of internal organs and blood vessels and to monitor the progress of pregnancy. A tool called a transducer that emits sound waves is placed over the area of the body being examined. The sound waves bounce off these structures and their echoes are received by the transducer, which then sends the information to a computer. The computer analyzes the information and creates a moving image.

Ultrasound is commonly used to look at:

- The blood vessels in the abdomen
- Arteries and veins in the neck, abdomen and legs

What should you bring to your procedure?

- Prescription or referral from your physician
- List of medications you take
- Insurance cards
- Medical history

How do you prepare for your ultrasound?

- Please arrive at least 15 minutes before your appointment and bring your referral form
- If you need to reschedule or cancel, please call at least 24 hours in advance.
- Please note special instructions for aneurysm, renal and mesenteric ultrasound.

Special instructions Aneurysm, mesenteric and renal ultrasound tests:

• Do not eat, drink, smoke, or chew gum for 6 hours before the test.

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What will you experience during your ultrasound exam?

Upon Arrival

- A technologist will take you to the exam room, ask you some medical questions, and explain what you can expect during your test.
- Before your scan, you may change into a gown and be asked to remove all metal and plastic items from the part of your body being examined.

During Your ultrasound

- A technologist will help you onto the examining table and position you comfortably.
- The technologist will apply gel to the area of your body that will be examined and then will place the transducer over that area.
- The exam usually takes about 30-60 minutes.

After your ultrasound

- You can leave immediately after your test and resume your normal activities.
- The vascular surgeon will review your exam and send the written report to your physician.
- Urgent findings will be called to your physician.

All of our Ultrasound facilities are ICVAL accredited.

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