

## Radiology

# Ultrasound scan - Abdomen

### What is an ultrasound scan?

An ultrasound scan is a procedure that uses sound waves to produce images of certain parts of the body. It does not involve X-rays.

An ultrasound scan is performed by a specially trained sonographer or a radiologist (imaging doctor). It requires the use of gel and is a safe procedure.

### What happens in the ultrasound scan?

The scan takes place in a darkened room. We will ask you to lie on an examination couch.

A small amount of gel will be put onto your skin over the area to be examined. A probe is moved over this area by the sonographer or radiologist. The images will appear on a monitor.

**We will ensure that your privacy and dignity are maintained at all times.**



## What do I have to before I attend?

- **Do not eat any food for 6 hours before your appointment time.**
- **Drink clear fluids only for 6 hours before your appointment time.**

**It is important you follow these instructions. If you have eaten, your examination may have to be rescheduled.**

If you take regular medication (**excluding diabetes medication**), please take it at the usual time.

## Diabetic patients

If you have diabetes, you should have received an early morning appointment.

If not, please contact the Department on the telephone number found on the appointment letter. Ask to speak to the outpatient ultrasound appointment administrator. They will rearrange your appointment time to the next appropriate and available appointment.

**Do not take your diabetic tablets or insulin** but bring them with you. You also may want to bring a snack with you to eat after your examination.

## What will happen?

On arrival at the Radiology/X-Ray Department, please report to the reception desk where you will be directed to one of our waiting areas.

We aim to make you feel welcome and make your visit as pleasant as possible. If you feel unhappy with any part of your care please ask to speak to the Department Lead.

## Results

The radiologist/sonographer will send a report to your GP or specialist consultant.

## More information

For more information, go to: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Ultrasound-scan/>

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format, please contact the number on your appointment letter and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke-free policy.

## Did we get it right?

We would like you to tell us what you think about our services. This helps us make further improvements and recognise members of staff who provide a good service.



Have your say. Scan the QR code or visit: [www.uhcw.nhs.uk/feedback](http://www.uhcw.nhs.uk/feedback)

### Document History

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