

ULTRASOUND

INFORMATION SHEET

What is an ultrasound scan?

Ultrasound uses high frequency sound waves to form images of your body. The procedure is very safe even in pregnancy with no known side effects. The test is usually performed by a sonographer, who is a technologist specially trained in ultrasound. Depending on the examination, a radiologist (a doctor who specialises in medical imaging) may also be involved.

What preparation is required?

Upper abdomen: Nothing to eat or drink for 6 hours prior (includes no chewing gum and no smoking at least 2 hours prior). You may take any normal medications with a minimum amount of water.

Male and female pelvis: Requires a full bladder - Empty bladder 2 hours prior to examination, drink 1L of water over the next hour. Hold bladder over the hour until examination.

Urinary tract (kidneys and bladder): Nothing to eat for 4 hours. Requires a full bladder - Empty bladder 2 hours prior to examination, drink 1L of water over the next hour. Hold bladder over the hour until examination.

Paediatric (Children): Please ring 4990 2655 for preparation instructions. Please bring along a favourite soft toy or doll.

Pregnancy: All Pregnancy Ultrasound preparation information can be found on our dedicated Obstetrics Ultrasound page.
(<https://clarityimaging.com.au/services/ultrasound/obstetric-ultrasound/>)

Musculoskeletal (MSK) Ultrasound: No preparation required.

DVT Ultrasound: No preparation required.

Arterial Duplex Ultrasound: No preparation required.

What happens during an ultrasound scan?

The sonographer will call you in and confirm your name. Depending on the examination you may need to change into a gown. A clear gel will be applied to the area to be examined, and an ultrasound probe run over the skin. Depending on the complexity of the study, the scan may take from 15 minutes to over one hour. A radiologist (specialist doctor) may be involved in part of the study.

When can I expect the results of the ultrasound scan?

As a rule, all ultrasound scans are reported by our radiologists the same day, at which point the doctor who requested the procedure will receive the result electronically. If it is urgent, we will report it as soon as possible after the scan is performed and will phone the result to the requesting doctor if necessary. If you have previous films, it is helpful if you bring them with you. The radiologist may want to compare the new film with old ones to provide a better and more accurate report.