

About Your Ultrasound



What is an ultrasound?

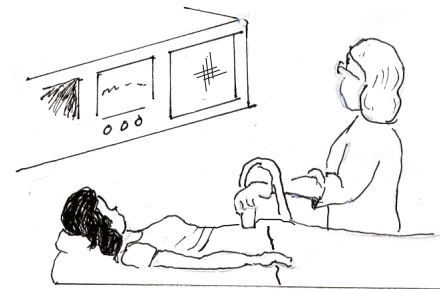
An ultrasound (or sonogram) is a painless test used to see inside your body. A technologist called a sonographer, or a doctor holds a small instrument (a transducer) over your skin. This transducer sends sound (sonar) waves through your body. The sonographer sees the echoes of the sound waves on a television screen, and records them. The recording is called a sonogram.

If you are a patient staying in the hospital, your appointment will be made for you. If you are a clinic patient, when you make the appointment for your test tell the clerk if :

- You have diabetes.
- If you are having an **abdominal** ultrasound (**aorta, gallbladder, liver, pancreas or spleen**):
 - Do not eat or drink after midnight before the test.
 - If you have diabetes, do not take your medicine until after your test. You will have your test done early in the morning.
- If you are having any other type of ultrasound (**pelvic, neck, breast, testicles, kidneys, etc.**):
 - You may eat breakfast and lunch. These ultrasounds are usually done in the afternoon.
- Come to the Radiology Department on the Ground Floor 30 minutes before your appointment. Bring a photo ID and have your medical record number with you.

How will my test be done?

- You will lie on your back in the sonography room. Only the part of your body to be checked will be uncovered.
- The sonographer or doctor will put gel on your skin to help the transducer move smoothly back and forth on your skin.
- The sonographer will ask you to hold still during the sonogram. You will be asked to hold your breath at different times during the test.



How will I find out the results of the test?



If you are in the hospital, the health care provider who ordered your test will tell you about your test results when they are ready. If you are a clinic patient your health care provider will tell you about your results at your next clinic appointment.

Be sure to keep this important appointment. If you do not have a follow-up clinic appointment, call and schedule one with your health care provider.