

Ultrasound - Paediatric Abdomen Scan

Information for the Parents/Guardians of Children Having an Ultrasound Scan of the Abdomen

This leaflet gives you information about your child's ultrasound scan of the abdomen. It explains what is involved and what your child needs to do before the scan. If you have any questions about the procedure please ask the doctor who referred you for the scan or the ultrasound department where the scan will be performed.

What is an ultrasound scan?

An ultrasound scan uses high frequency sound waves to view the organs of the body.

Are there any risks?

Ultrasound is considered a safe examination as it **does not** involve exposure to radiation.

Does my child need to do anything before the scan?

Your child cannot have anything to eat for 6 hours before the examination. Your child may drink water or fruit juice, but NOT milk or any drink containing milk.

Where is the ultrasound department?

The ultrasound department is located on the ground floor of the hospital and is clearly sign-posted.

When you arrive

Please go to the reception desk in the ultrasound department. You will then be asked to sit in the waiting room until you are called through to an examination room.

Who will carry out the examination?

The examination will be performed by a sonographer or radiologist.

What happens during the ultrasound scan?

You and your child will be called into the examination room and the doctor or sonographer will introduce themselves and ask you to confirm your child's name, address and date of birth. If your child is old enough then the doctor or sonographer will ask your child to confirm these details.

You will be asked to remove or pull up your child's clothing and to lay your child on the examination couch. Ultrasound gel is applied to the transducer (ultrasound probe) which is then placed on the child's abdomen and moved over the skin.

A picture will appear on the monitor of the ultrasound machine and a sequence of pictures will be taken.

How long does it take?

The ultrasound procedure usually takes between 10-15 minutes.

What happens after the examination?

Once the examination is over you and your child are free to leave the department. Your child can eat and drink as normal.

How will you get your results?

The results of your scan will be sent to the consultant, GP or clinic that requested your scan.

Contact information

If you need any further information then please contact the Ultrasound Department, Arrowe Park Hospital on 0151 604 7165.