

Information for patients and carers

Gynaecology Ultrasound Scan

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page consisting of three overlapping, wavy bands of blue. The top band is a light blue, the middle is a medium blue, and the bottom is a dark blue.

What is an Ultrasound scan?

An ultrasound examination is a method of studying the soft tissues of various parts of the body.

Sound waves (which cannot be heard by the human ear) are used to produce images.

A special gel is applied to the skin and the ultrasound probe is then moved over your skin.

This builds up a picture which is displayed on a TV monitor. This examination is performed by a specially trained Advanced Practitioner Sonographer.

They will also produce a report after the examination for the clinician.

An assistant may also be in the examination room during your scan.

Important Information

Please inform us before you attend:

- If you are or think you may be pregnant
- If you need a hoist to transfer

Preparation for the scan

- **It is essential for this examination that you have a full bladder**
- **Please drink at least 1-2 pints of fluid (water or fruit squash, not fizzy drinks) ONE hour prior to your appointment time**
- **Do not empty your bladder until you have had your scan**

Can you bring a relative or friend with you?

Anyone can accompany you to the hospital but they will not usually be allowed into the room when you have your procedure. Please note that we do not have childcare facilities so we ask that you do not bring small children with you unless accompanied.

What happens when you arrive?



On arrival at the Ultrasound department, please book in at the reception desk where you will be asked to have a seat in the waiting area. Please **do not** empty your bladder until after your examination. You will then be shown through to the examination room, where the sonographer will check some details with you. The sonographer will explain the examination and answer any questions you may have.

What happens during the examination?

There are two methods of gynaecology ultrasound:

1) Transabdominal:

The ultrasound probe is moved over the skin of the abdomen.

2) Transvaginal (Internal scan):

A special ultrasound probe covered by a sheath is inserted into the vagina. **The transvaginal scan will only be performed with your consent**

Are there any risks or side effects?

There are no known risks or side effects.

Your results

The images will be reviewed after your visit. You will be advised when and how you will receive your results at this time. You will not receive any results on the day of the scan.

Contact details

Should you require further advice or information the department can be contacted Monday to Friday:

8.30am to 4.30pm on the following telephone numbers:

Sharoe Green Unit: **01772 524616**

Preston: **01772 522619**

Chorley: **01257 247793**

Sources of further information

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk

www.nhs.uk

www.patient.co.uk

www.accessable.co.uk

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www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets

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If you want to stop smoking, you can also contact Smokefree Lancashire on Freephone **08081962638**

Please ask a member of staff if you would like help in understanding this information.

This information can be made available in large print, audio, Braille and in other languages.

Department: Radiology/Ultrasound

Division: Diagnostics and Clinical Support

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