

Information for Patients and Carers

Renal Ultrasound Scan



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, or a consultant radiologist. They will also produce a report after the examination for the referring team.

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

Preparation for the scan

It is essential for this examination that you drink **1 pint of water 1 hour** before your appointment time. Do not empty your bladder until after your scan. You can eat as normal.

Please inform the department if you are diabetic prior to the appointment.

Please inform the sonographer/doctor before your scan if you are allergic to latex.

Please advise the department prior to your visit if you need an interpreter.

Can I bring a relative or friend with me?

Anyone can accompany you to the hospital, but they will not be allowed into the room during your examination. Please note that we do not have childcare facilities. If you need to bring other children with you, please bring along an adult who can supervise them while the examination is being done.

What happens when I arrive at the department?

When you arrive at the department, please book in at the reception desk. You will be asked to take a seat in the waiting area. You will be shown through to the examination room, where the sonographer will

check some details with you. The sonographer/radiologist will explain the examination and answer any questions you may have.

What happens during the examination?

Warm gel will be applied to your skin (you do not need to undress for this procedure). You will lie on your back for some of the scan; the sonographer may then ask you to turn onto your side. You may be



asked to hold your breath at times during the scan. The examination normally takes approximately 20 minutes.

What happens after the examination?

After the examination, you are free to leave the department, and you may eat and drink as normal.

Are there any risks?

There are no known risks.

When will I receive the examination results?

The images will be reviewed after your visit. You will be advised when and how you will receive your results. 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.accessable.co.uk

www.patient.co.uk

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/veteran-aware

<https://bepartofresearch.nihr.ac.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.

Our patient information group review our leaflets regularly, if you feel you would like to feedback on this information or to join our reading group please contact us on email address:

patientexperienceandinvolve@LTHTR.nhs.uk

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Division: Diagnostics and Clinical Support

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