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## Ultrasound Exam Fact Sheet

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### Ultrasound Exam

This test can be done in two locations on our campus. You will receive an automatic voice reminder that will tell you where your test will be done. There is a map on our website that will identify this area and parking close to the entrance for these areas. A courtesy cruiser is available to take you from the parking areas to the appropriate registration area.

### What is an ultrasound?

An ultrasound exam is a painless, diagnostic procedure that uses sound waves to produce images of soft tissue and body organs.

### Why do you have an ultrasound?

An ultrasound is done for one of the following reasons:

- Pregnancy
- Blood clots
- Gallstones
- Check kidney function
- To determine a cyst, mass or abnormal growth

### How long will the exam take?

The exam usually takes about 45 minutes.

### How do I prepare for my test?

It is important to note preparation depends on the area you are having an ultrasound done on. Please review and pick the appropriate one:

- Abdominal scan, biopsy or exam of the gallbladder, liver and pancreas – do not eat or drink anything after midnight the night prior to the exam.
- Obstetrical and pelvis exams – these tests require a full bladder. You must drink 32 ounces of fluid 90 minutes prior to the exam.
- Other types of ultrasound exams – no preparation required.

### How is the test done?

You will lie down on a bed in a dimly lit room and the technologist will apply a lubricating warm gel on your skin over the area to be examined. A probe is passed over the specific area several times. Images are made by moving the probe across the area being examined. The image is then stored on film.

### How do I find out the results?

A radiologist will study your films, and the results will be mailed to your physician.