



Ultrasound

What is Ultrasound?

Ultrasound, also called sonography, is a technique that uses sound waves to study and treat soft tissue and body cavities without using invasive techniques. You will not be exposed to any radiation.

Preparing for an Ultrasound

1. For Pregnancy/Fetal Growth or Pelvic Ultrasounds: Drink 32 ounces of clear liquid one and a half hours prior to your exam. Do not use the bathroom until after the test.
2. For Abdominal Ultrasounds (Gallbladder, Liver, Pancreas, Spleen): Do not take anything by the mouth overnight or for eight hours preceding the exam. This is because these actions increase the amount of abdominal gas, which may alter blood flow in upper abdominal organs, which can prevent an adequate ultrasound examination. Medications may be taken with a small amount of water. If you have diabetes, please check with your doctor for special instructions.
3. For Thyroid, Breast, Scrotum, Carotid or Venous Duplex, Upper or Lower Extremity Ultrasounds: There are no food or drink restrictions. Continue to take medications as directed by your doctor.
4. Wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothing.
5. Please remember to bring:
 - Your prescription
 - Your insurance card
 - Your referral (if needed)
6. For a Renal/Bladder Ultrasound: You will be asked to drink 24 ounces of clear liquid 1-1/2 hours before exam. Do not go to the bathroom until after the test; a full bladder is required when the exam begins.

What to Expect During the Exam

1. To begin your procedure the technologist will position you on an examination table.
2. A clear gel (which helps "connect" the ultrasound transducer to the skin) is applied to the area to be examined.

3. The technologist then brings the transducer into contact with the skin and sweeps it back and forth to image the area of interest.
4. You are simply required to relax and stay calm during the examination.

What to Expect After the Exam

There are no after effects from having an ultrasound, and you may resume normal activity immediately.

About your Results

One of our board-certified radiologists will read the film, typically within 24 hours. Within 48 hours, a report will be sent to the ordering physician, as well as any other physician you may have requested. If you need to pick up your results, you may do so from our medical records departments or by email at medicalrecords@qbradiology.com.

Please feel free to contact our office if you have any further questions.