

Patient Exam Prep Information

Abdominal Ultrasound

What is ultrasound of the Abdomen?

Ultrasound imaging of the abdomen uses sound waves to produce pictures of the structures within the upper abdomen. It is used to help diagnose pain or enlargement and evaluate the kidneys, liver, gallbladder, bile ducts, pancreas, spleen, and abdominal aorta.

Ultrasound imaging is also called ultrasound scanning or Sonography. It uses a small probe called a transducer and gel placed directly on the skin. High-frequency sound waves travel from the probe through the gel into the body. The probe collects the sounds that bounce back. A computer uses those sound waves to create an image. Because images are captured in real-time, they can show the structure and movement of the body's internal organs. They can also show blood flowing through blood vessels.

Ultrasound is safe, noninvasive and does not use ionizing radiation.

How to prepare for the Abdominal Ultrasound

This exam requires little preparation; refrain from eating, drinking, smoking, or chewing gum at least 6 to 8 hours beforehand. Wear loose, comfortable clothing.

Videos

What is an Ultrasound?

<https://youtu.be/5emUmWgfp10>

How Ultrasound works

<http://youtu.be/l1Bdp2tMFsY>

