

# Ultrasound Renal

# Patient Information

## WHAT IS ULTRASOUND?

Medical Ultrasound is a diagnostic imaging technique that uses sound waves to visualize soft tissue structures and vessels. Since it uses sound waves and not radiation to obtain images of your internal organs, it is deemed safe for use in evaluating pregnant women and patients of all ages. Ultrasound gel is used to conduct the sound waves into the body and to allow the return of those sound waves to produce a picture. This gel is applied over the area to be imaged. A transducer, or probe, is placed on the surface of the gel and is used to obtain images. Ultrasound is helpful in evaluating organs such as the liver, kidneys, pancreas, spleen, and the gallbladder. It is used to determine the size and shape of a given structure and to evaluate for pathological lesions and/or other abnormalities. Such abnormalities include renal stones or renal obstruction.

## HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR PROCEDURE:

You must have a referring physician's order. The physician's office may fax the order to our facility prior to your appointment. Please bring a list of your medications with you. You must drink 32-64 ounces of water 1(one) hour prior to your exam. DO NOT empty your bladder prior to the exam. You must have a full bladder for the exam.

### **\*Exception for patients under 4 years of age:**

Please attempt to have child intake an adequate amount of fluid to increase possibility of full bladder visualization.

## WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU ARRIVE:

All patients must register 15-30 minutes prior to the scheduled exam appointment time. You will be taken to an ultrasound exam room by a technologist. The technologist will explain the procedure once you are in the ultrasound room.

## RECOVERY / HOME:

You will be able to resume all normal activities upon completion of your ultrasound exam. The radiologist will interpret the exam and send the results to your physician.



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