

Transvaginal / Pelvic Ultrasound

What You Need to Know and Do

Ultrasound creates detailed images of the inside of your body using sound waves.

Transvaginal / Pelvic ultrasound creates images of the uterus, ovaries, and other pelvic organs. It is used to check:

- problems and symptoms, such as pain
- your baby's health, if you are pregnant.

What should I do before my appointment?

You may be asked to drink several glasses of water, or other clear liquids, starting 1 to 2 hours before your test in order to have a full bladder before your test.

Or you may be asked to empty your bladder before or during the procedure.

Tell your sonographer about any medicines you take.

Also be sure to tell the sonographer if you:

- have had pelvic surgery
- have had an ultrasound exam of this area before
- are or think you may be pregnant.

When should I arrive for my appointment?

You will need to arrive at least 30 minutes before your appointment time to check in and complete paperwork.

What happens during my ultrasound?

Ultrasound of the stomach

You will lie on an exam table. A layer of ultrasound gel is applied to your stomach.

A transducer (probe) is moved over your stomach. The procedure is painless.

It usually takes less than 30 minutes.

Vaginal ultrasound

You may be asked to change into a hospital gown.

You will lie on an exam table with your knees raised, as you would for a pelvic exam.

A thin hand-held probe is used. The probe has a sterile cover and an ultrasound gel is used. It is inserted into your vagina.

You may feel pressure, but you should have little discomfort during the test.

It usually takes less than 30 minutes.

What happens after my test?

You can usually return to your normal activities and diet right away.