

Pregnancy Ultrasound

Important Information for Patients and their Families

Your Healthcare Provider has ordered an ultrasound examination to assess the health of your fetus. Reasons for an exam can include:

1 st Trimester	2 nd Trimester	3 rd Trimester
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To accurately date the pregnancy and determine your due date (dating ultrasound) - To assess when there has been bleeding or pain - At 11-14 weeks for the enhanced First Trimester Screen (eFTS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At 20 weeks to assess all of fetus' anatomy and growth (routine anatomy) - To check the location of the placenta or cervix length 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To assess the fetus' growth, position, fluid levels and general well being

Ultrasound Preparation:

Less than 32 weeks requires a **FULL BLADDER**. Please drink 4 glasses of water **ONE** hour prior to your exam and **DO NOT VOID** If you are uncomfortable, you are likely too full and may need to release some fluid. Please see the front desk before doing so.

Ultrasound Procedure for eFTS and 20-week Routine Anatomy:

The time of the exam depends on how well the fetus is cooperating. Scans can take up to an hour to complete. You will be able to empty your bladder at some point during the exam. The technologist needs time to concentrate and obtain the required images and measurements of your fetus. **Family viewing and photos are only available for the eFTS and 20-week Anatomy Ultrasound Exams.**

Family Viewing:

Family viewing will be available after the technologist has taken the required images for the doctor. Family viewing is available for the EFTs and 20-week anatomy scan only. A responsible, non-patient adult must be available to look after young children in the waiting area. Failure to have child supervision may result in your test being rebooked.

Photos:



The technologist will leave an image of your fetus on the ultrasound screen when the exam is finished. At this time, you are welcome to capture photos with your camera or phone.

Emergency or Urgent Ultrasounds:

Any ultrasound ordered outside of the eFTS or 20-week scan is considered an emergency or high risk. Family viewing is not permitted. The Technologist is unable provide information at the time of your exam. Your care provider will follow up with you after your appointment.

Support Person:

When medically necessary and tempered to meet the patient's needs, a support person may be invited into the exam room during the ultrasound, upon request. Please be respectful that the technologist needs to concentrate during the exam, therefore, noise and distractions must be kept at a minimum.

Results:

Ultrasound technologists are unable to give you any results about your fetus. The Radiologist will interpret the images taken and send a report to your healthcare provider. This report includes the sex of the fetus. **The sex of the fetus will not be provided at the time of your exam.** At the 20-week scan, the technologist will attempt to obtain an image of sex for radiologist interpretation. If it is seen, it will be included in the final report along with all of the other information. The results will be available from your healthcare provider.

It is important to note that we cannot always see sex due to fetus' position or other technical factors. Please note that sex determination by ultrasound is **not** always 100% accurate.

