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## **Abdominal Ultrasound Examination**

### **Test Overview**

An abdominal ultrasound is a test that uses reflected sound waves to produce a picture of organs and other structures inside the abdomen. It does not use X-rays or other types of radiation. A small handheld instrument called a transducer is passed back and forth over the area of the abdomen being examined. It sends out high-pitched sound waves and converts them into a picture that is displayed on a video monitor. The picture produced by ultrasound is called a sonogram, or ultrasound scan.

An ultrasound exam takes anywhere from ten minutes to an hour depending upon the part of the body that is being scanned.

To avoid rescheduling of your appointment please follow the preparation instructions below.

## **ULTRASOUND PREP INSTRUCTIONS**

### Liver, Gallbladder, Pancreas, Aorta

- For a morning appointment, do not eat or drink from midnight the night before the exam until after the exam is completed.
- For an afternoon appointment, do not eat or drink for at least 8 hours before exam.

### Kidney

- There is no preparation needed.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- **All patients need to arrive 15-30 minutes before their appointment time to allow for pre-registration.**
- Please do not bring children that cannot be left unattended.
- If you need to cancel or reschedule your appointment please call the appropriate number listed above for that facility.