



Patient Information  
Tests and Procedures

**Ultrasound**

## Ultrasound

### *Table of contents*

Ultrasound-Abdomen (Gallbladder, Liver, Pancreas, Spleen)

Ultrasound-Amniocentesis

Ultrasound-Aorta

Ultrasound-Biophysical Profile

Ultrasound-Breast

Ultrasound-Breast Needle Localization

Ultrasound-Fine Needle Aspiration (FNA)

Ultrasound-Neonatal Brains

Ultrasound-Kidney Biopsy

Ultrasound-Kidney & Bladder

Ultrasound-Paracentesis (Abdominal Fluid Sampling)

Ultrasound-Pelvic & Transvaginal

Ultrasound-Pregnancy

Ultrasound-Testicular/Scrotum

Ultrasound-Thorocentesis

Ultrasound-Thyroid-Neck

## **Ultrasound of the Abdomen** (Gallbladder, Biliary ducts, Liver, Pancreas, Spleen)

### **What is the test?**

- Ultrasound is a painless way to view the structures inside your abdomen using sound waves and a type of sonar detection system that generates a black and white picture.
- Ultrasound of the abdomen is useful for finding gallstones, liver cancer or draining problems, size of the spleen, masses or pseudocysts in the pancreas or pancreatitis and ascities (fluid around the abdominal organs).
- It is hard for the ultrasound test to get a clear picture of organs that are filled with air (such as the stomach or intestines).

### **How do I prepare for the test?**

- You will be asked not to eat for at least 8 hours before the exam is done. Food in your stomach causes your intestines to fill with extra air while you are digesting, which would make it more difficult to see your organs with the ultrasound beam.
- If you have diabetes and take insulin, discuss this with your doctor before the test.

### **What happens when the test is performed?**

- You will lie on your back on the table for the test. A Sonographer (the person trained to do ultrasounds) will first squirt some clear gel onto your abdomen to help the ultrasound sensor to slide around easily, and then they will place the sensor against your skin. The sensor is like a microphone and will send and receive sound into your abdomen and a picture will appear on the video screen. The sonographer will move the sensor back and forth on your abdomen to see the internal organs from different views.
- It is helpful for you to tell the person doing the ultrasound if you are feeling any soreness when they press with the ultrasound sensor. This can help with the test if you feel tenderness while we are scanning over a particular organ (the gallbladder or appendix).

**Must I do anything special after the test is over?**

- The gel will be wiped off. You will have not side effects for the test.
- Your physician will receive the results within 24-48 hours.

**If there is anything we can do to make you more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.**

## Ultrasound – Amniocentesis

### What is the test?

- The doctor may need to sample the fluid that is around the baby. Sampling this fluid is important because it lets the doctor to understand about the baby and the fluid can be sent for testing. A needle is used to sample this fluid.

### How do I prepare for the test?

- You will be asked to sign a permission (consent) form allowing the doctor to perform this test. Tell the doctor if you have ever had an allergic reaction to the medicine “lidocaine” or the numbing medicine used at the dentist office.
- You will be asked not to eat or drink anything a few hours before the test- this is a safety precaution in case you are one of the rare patients who have a complication. You should continue to take your medicines with small sips of water.
- If you take aspirin, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs or medicines that affect the blood clotting talk with you doctor. You may have to stop or adjust the dose of these medicines before your test.

### What happens when the test is performed?

- For this test, you will lie on the bed or table. Your skin will be cleaned with a special soap. A small needle will be used to numb a patch of the skin. The numbing medicine usually stings for a second. A needle with a empty syringe is then inserted in the fluid. You may feel some pressure as the needle is inserted. The doctor is going to remove some fluid and he/she will use a syringe. It sometimes takes 15 -30 minutes for the test. The patient feels no discomfort during this time.
- You will have a bandage where the needle was inserted. The sonographer will look again to check the baby’s heart beat and then you may be placed on the pregnancy monitor for awhile.

### What risks are there from the test?

- The doctor performing the amniocentesis will review any risk with you before the test.

### Must I do any thing special after the test is over?

- The gel will be wiped off.
- After the fluid is removed and sent to the lab a Band-Aid will be placed on you abdomen.

If there is any thing we can do to make your more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.

## **Ultrasound of the Aorta**

### **What is the test?**

- Ultrasound is a painless way to view the structures inside your aorta using sound waves and a type of sonar detection system that generates a black and white picture.

### **How do I prepare for the test?**

- There is your may be asked not to eat from midnight on the day of the aorta exam.

### **What happens when the test is performed?**

- You will lie on your back on the table for the test. A Sonographer (the person trained to do ultrasounds) will first squirt some clear gel onto your abdomen to help the ultrasound sensor to slide around easily, and then they will place the sensor against your skin. The sensor is like a microphone and will send and receive sound into your abdomen and a picture will appear on the video screen. The sonographer will move the sensor back and forth on your abdomen to see the internal organs from different views. You may be asked to turn form side to side.
- It is helpful for you to tell the person doing the ultrasound if you are feeling any soreness when the press with the ultrasound sensor. This can help with the test if you feel tenderness while we are scanning over a particular area.
- You may hear a sound that sound like a heart beat during the exam. That will be to check the blood flow.

### **Must I do anything special after the test is over?**

- The gel will be wiped off. You will have not side effects for the test.
- Your physician will receive the results within 24-48 hours.

**If there is anything we can do to make you more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.**

## Ultrasound –Biophysical Profile (BPP)

### What is the test?

- Ultrasound is a painless way to view the structures inside your uterus using sound waves and a type of sonar detection system that generates a black and white moving picture. Biophysical Profile ultrasound is useful for evaluating the well being of the baby.

### How do I prepare for the test?

- No prep

### What happens when the test is performed?

- You will lie on your back on the table for the test. A Sonographer (the person trained to do ultrasounds) will first squirt some clear gel onto your abdomen to help the ultrasound sensor to slide around easily, and then they will place the sensor against your skin. The sensor is like a microphone and will send and receive sound into your abdomen and a picture will appear on the video screen. The sonographer will move the sensor back and forth on your abdomen to see the baby from many different views. They will check the baby's heart beat, movements, breathing movements and the water around the baby. This is not painful

### What risks are there from this test?

- There are no risks to either the mother or the fetus from the ultrasound.

### Must I do any thing special after the test is over?

- The gel will be wiped off. You will have not side effects for the test.
- Your physician will receive the results within 24-48 hours.

If there is any thing we can do to make your more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.

# Ultrasound of the Breast

## What is the test?

- A breast ultrasound is a way to look inside the breast tissue using sound waves and a type of sonar detection system that generates a black and white picture.
- It is useful for determining if a lump is caused by a fluid pocket (a cyst) or a solid mass.

## How do I prepare for the test?

- No preparation is necessary.

## What happens when the test is performed?

- A sonographer or doctor will first squirt some clear gel onto the skin to help the ultrasound sensor slide around easily. Next the sensor is placed against your skin. The sensor looks like a microphone. A picture will appear on the TV screen. The sonographer or doctor will slide the sensor back and forth on the area of your breast that is being examined to see the tissue inside for many different views. You may be asked to turn in different positions also.

## Must I do anything special after the test is over?

- The gel will be wiped off. You will have not side effects for the test.
- Your physician will receive the results within 24-48 hours.

**If there is anything we can do to make you more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.**

# Ultrasound Breast Needle Localization

## What is the test?

- Sometimes an abnormal area will be seen on the mammogram that clearly should be tested for cancer or completely removed from the breast, but this area is not easily felt as a lump on examination. The Ultrasound department can help your surgeon to find the area more easily by using a technique called “wire localization.”
- In “wire localization”, the radiologists (who have had the benefit of seeing the abnormal area on your mammograms) mark the abnormality with a wire that is inserted under your skin into the area of the breast that is causing concern. Right afterward, the surgeon can meet you in the operating room and can use the wire to find the abnormal spot in your breast so that he or she can remove it.

## How do I prepare for the test?

- You will be asked to sign a permission or “consent” form allowing your doctor to perform this test.
- You will be asked not to eat anything for at least 8 hours before the surgery. An empty stomach will help prevent nausea that can be a side effect of anesthesia medicines. You should arrange for a ride home from the hospital; most patients can go home on the same day as the surgery.
- If you are taking insulin, discuss this with your doctor before the test. If you take aspirin, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, or other medicines that affect blood clotting, talk with your doctor. It may be necessary to stop or adjust the dose of these medications before your test.
- Prior to surgery (sometimes on the same day), you will meet with an anesthesiologist to discuss your medical history (including medicines and allergies) and the anesthesia that is planned for you surgery.

## What happens when the test is performed?

- The first part of the procedure occurs in the Ultrasound department. Although you probably recently had a breast ultrasound, a sonographer will perform another one to find the abnormal area. While watching your ultrasound on a screen, the radiologist will then decide where in your breast the abnormality is. He or she will insert a needle into your breast in this area and will watch as the needle goes into the suspected area. To be sure the end of the needle is in close proximity to the middle of the area of concern another image will be taken by ultrasound. The needle might require some adjustment so that it is placed just right.

## What happens when the test is performed? (Continued)

- The needle is hollow and the radiologist can slide a small wire right through it. This wire has a tiny fishhook on its end so when the end of the wire reaches the point of the needle in your breast, it can grab onto your breast tissue and hold itself in place. Then the needle can be pulled out, sliding over the outside end of the wire and leaving the wire in your breast.
- You will be taken to the operating room for the second part of the biopsy. You will have an IV (intravenous) line place in your arm so that you can receive medication through it. Your procedure may be done under “local” or “general” anesthesia. Local anesthesia is similar to the kind most people get at the dentist—a numbing medication is injected in a few places under your skin surface so that you won’t feel anything in the specific area that will be worked on during the surgery. General anesthesia, on the other hand, causes you to be asleep or unconscious during the procedure and is administered by an anesthesiologist. For general

# Ultrasound – Fine-Needle Aspiration FNA

## What is the test?

- A fine needle aspiration is a test in which a doctor uses a needle and a syringe to remove a sample of tissue so that it can be examined under a microscope. This tissue can be taken from different areas of the body ( example the breast or thyroid)
- Fine-needle aspiration is also used to drain a fluid pocket ( cysts) in the body when the are uncomfortable for a patient

## How do I prepare for the test?

- You will have blood tests done to help the doctor know if your art an extra risk for bleeding after the procedure. You will be asked t sign a permission (consent) form allowing the doctor to perform this test. Tell the doctor if you have ever had an allergic reaction to the medicine “lidocaine” or the numbing medicine used at the dentist office.
- You will be asked not to eat or drink anything after midnight the night before the test- this is a safety precaution in case you are one of the rare patients who have a complication. You should continue to take your medicines with small sips of water. This is very important for blood pressure medicines. If your blood pressure is too high on the day of the test the doctor will probably not do the test
- If you have diabetes and take insulin, discuss this with your doctor before the test.
- If you take aspirin, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs or medicines that affect the blood clotting talk with you doctor. You may have to stop or adjust the dose of these medicines before your test.

## What happens when the test is performed?

- The nurse will measure your blood pressure. You will have an IV (Intervenous) line placed in your arm in case you need any fluid during the procedure.
- You will be positions for the area to be examined usually lying on your back. The sonographer will place some jelly on your skin and do an ultrasound exam. An ultrasound is a painless test that uses sound waves to fine the kidney. The sonographer will move the sensor back and forth on your back to see both kidneys. The ultrasound sensor will show or guide the doctor to the spot for the tissue sample.
- Some numbing medicine will be injected under your skin and then deeper in to the muscle where the biopsy needle will go. You will feel some brief stinging from the numbing medicine.
- A special sampling needle will be placed into the area that was numbed. The needle will go to the edge of your kidney. This special needle has a spring that will snap forward very quickly to collect a small piece of tissue from your kidney. You may feel a slight discomfort or pinch at that time. The doctor will have you breath as you had practiced and will collect 2 or 3 samples of your kidney.
- You will have a bandage and a ice pack placed on your back where the needle was inserted.

## Ultrasound – Fine-Needle Aspiration FNA

### **What risks are there from the test?**

- The doctor performing the biopsy will review any risk with you before the test.

### **Must I do any thing special after the test is over?**

- The gel will be wiped off. And you will lie on your back with an icepack.

**If there is any thing we can do to make you more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.**

## Ultrasound Breast Needle Localization

anesthesia, you breathe a mixture of gases through a mask. After the anesthetic takes effect, a tube may be put down your throat to help you breathe.

- An incision will be made in your breast right where the wire sticks out of your skin. The surgeon will feel along the wire and separate the breast tissue from the wire until he or she finds where the end of the wire is hooked into your breast. The surgeon knows that it is the area right at the end of the wire that looks abnormal on your mammogram and needs removal. He or she will take out a small sample of breast tissue from the area surrounding the end of the wire—the wire will be removed with the chunk since it will still be holding onto the middle of it.
- While you are still in the operating room, your surgeon will give the breast lump removed (still with the wire attached) to the Ultrasound Dept. The sonographer will scan the tissue of the removed lump to see if it looks the same as the ultrasound that had caused concern on your ultrasound. The sonographer shows the images to the Radiologist who then can confirm for the surgeon that the correct piece has been removed.
- If you had general anesthesia, you will have your anesthesia stopped so that you can wake up within minutes of your biopsy being finished.

### **Must I do anything special after the test is over?**

- You will be watched for a few hours after your surgery to make sure that you are recovering well. You may be asked to sit up and drink liquids. For most breast biopsies, you can go home on the same day as the operation.
- You should contact your doctor if you develop a fever over 101 degrees, strong pain at your surgery site, or bleeding from your wound. You will have a follow-up visit with your doctor to remove stitches if this is needed and to make sure you are recovering well.
- You can return to normal activities, although general anesthesia (if you had this) may make you feel like taking the rest of the day off. If you have had anesthesia or antianxiety medicine, you should not drive or drink alcohol following your test.

### **How long is it before the result of the test is known?**

- Report from the biopsy can take several days.

**If there is anything we can do to make you more comfortable while in the Mammography Department, please do not hesitate to ask.**

## Ultrasound – Neonatal Brain

### What is the test?

- A neonatal brain ultrasound is a way to look inside the brain using sound waves. It is useful for determining if there is bleeding or fluid collecting in side of the head.

### How do I prepare for the test?

- No preparation is necessary.

### What happens when the test is performed?

- The baby will have to lie on their back. A sonographer or doctor will first squirt some clear gel onto the skin to help the ultrasound sensor slide around easily. Next the sensor is placed against your skin. The sensor looks like a microphone. A picture will appear on the TV screen. The sonographer or doctor will slide the sensor back and forth on the head looking through the soft spot in the head. When the head is being examined we are looking at the tissue inside from many different views. Images will be taken showing blood flow and you may hear a sound that resembles the wind or a heart beat.

### Must I do any thing special after the test is over?

- The gel will be wiped off. You will have not side effects for the test.
- Your physician will receive the results within 24-48 hours.

If there is any thing we can do to make your more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.

# Ultrasound – Kidney Biopsy

## What is the test?

- A kidney biopsy obtains a sample of your kidney tissue so that it can be examined under a microscope. Kidney biopsy is useful for deciding what the cause of kidney failure is and for making decisions about how it would be best to treat the kidney. A kidney biopsy can also be used to diagnose cancer of the kidney.

•

## How do I prepare for the test?

- You will have blood tests done to help the doctor know if you are at an extra risk for bleeding after the procedure. You will be asked to sign a permission (consent) form allowing the doctor to perform this test. Tell the doctor if you have ever had an allergic reaction to the medicine “lidocaine” or the numbing medicine used at the dentist office.
- You will be asked not to eat or drink anything after midnight the night before the test- this is a safety precaution in case you are one of the rare patients who have a complication. You should continue to take your medicines with small sips of water. This is very important for blood pressure medicines. If your blood pressure is too high on the day of the test the doctor will probably not do the test
- If you have diabetes and take insulin, discuss this with your doctor before the test.
- If you take aspirin, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs or medicines that affect the blood clotting talk with your doctor. You may have to stop or adjust the dose of these medicines before your test.
- You should plan on spending one night in the hospital after this test so that you can be monitored for complications such as bleeding.

•

## What happens when the test is performed?

- The nurse will measure your blood pressure. You will have an IV (Intravenous) line placed in your arm in case you need any fluid during the procedure.
- You will be asked to lie on your stomach with a pillow under your abdomen. The sonographer will place some jelly on your back and do an ultrasound exam. An ultrasound is a painless test that uses sound waves to find the kidney. The sonographer will move the sensor back and forth on your back to see both kidneys. The ultrasound sensor will show or guide the doctor the spot to take the biopsy or tissue sample. The doctor will have you practice breathing in and out to see how your kidney moves.
- Some numbing medicine will be injected under your skin and then deeper in to the muscle where the biopsy needle will go. You will feel some brief stinging from the numbing medicine.
- A special sampling needle will be placed into the area that was numbed. The needle will go to the edge of your kidney. This special needle has a spring that will snap forward very quickly to collect a small piece of tissue from your kidney. You may feel a slight discomfort or pinch at that time. The doctor will have you breathe as you had practiced and will collect 2 or 3 samples of your kidney.
- You will have a bandage and an ice pack placed on your back where the needle was inserted. The sonographer will look again with the sensor to check for bleeding around the kidney.

•

## What risks are there from the test?

- The doctor performing the biopsy will review any risk with you before the test.

## **Ultrasound – Kidney Biopsy**

### **Must I do any thing special after the test is over?**

- The gel will be wiped off. And you will lie on your back with an icepack.
- You will likely spend the night in the hospital and you will have blood test done to check for bleeding. They will also check your urine (pee)

**If there is any thing we can do to make you more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.**

# Ultrasound of the Kidneys and Bladder

## What is the test?

- Ultrasound is a painless way to view the structures inside your kidneys and bladder using sound waves and a type of sonar detection system that generates a black and white picture.
- **Ultrasound of the kidneys and bladder is useful for finding kidney stones, urine draining problems, masses on the kidney.**

## How do I prepare for the test?

- There is no prep for the kidney part of the exam.
- You may be asked to drink 3 or 4 glasses of water for the bladder to be seen.

## What happens when the test is performed?

- You will lie on your back on the table for the test. A Sonographer (the person trained to do ultrasounds) will first squirt some clear gel onto your abdomen to help the ultrasound sensor to slide around easily, and then they will place the sensor against your skin. The sensor is like a microphone and will send and receive sound into your abdomen and a picture will appear on the video screen. The sonographer will move the sensor back and forth on your abdomen to see the internal organs from different views.
- It is helpful for you to tell the person doing the ultrasound if you are feeling any soreness when they press with the ultrasound sensor. This can help with the test if you feel tenderness while we are scanning over a particular area.
- You may be asked to go to the bathroom and empty your bladder at the end of the exam if your doctor wants to check to see if you go all the way when you urinate (pee)

## Must I do anything special after the test is over?

- The gel will be wiped off. You will have no side effects for the test.
- Your physician will receive the results within 24-48 hours.

**If there is anything we can do to make you more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.**

## Ultrasound – Paracentesis

### What is the test?

- Some infections and diseases cause fluid to collect in the abdomen around the organs. This collection is called ascities. Ascities might be detected on an abdomen x-ray. Sampling this fluid is important because it lets the doctor to understand what is causing the fluid to collect and how to treat the problem. A needle is used to sample this fluid.

### How do I prepare for the test?

- You will be asked to sign a permission (consent) form allowing the doctor to perform this test. Tell the doctor if you have ever had an allergic reaction to the medicine “lidocaine” or the numbing medicine used at the dentist office.
- You will be asked not to eat or drink anything a few hours before the test- this is a safety precaution in case you are one of the rare patients who have a complication. You should continue to take your medicines with small sips of water.
- If you take aspirin, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs or medicines that affect the blood clotting talk with you doctor. You may have to stop or adjust the dose of these medicines before your test.

### What happens when the test is performed?

- For this test, you will lie on the bed or table. Your skin will be cleaned with a special soap. A small needle will be used to numb a patch of the skin. The numbing medicine usually stings for a second. A needle with a empty syringe is then inserted in the fluid. You may feel some pressure as the needle is inserted. Depending on the amount of fluid the doctor is going to remove he/she may use just the syringe or he/she may insert a small plastic tube to collect a larger amount of fluid in a special jar.
- It sometimes takes 15-30 minutes to remove the necessary amount of fluid. The patient feels no discomfort during this time.
- You will have a bandage and a ice pack placed on your back where the needle was inserted. The sonographer will look again with the sensor to check for bleeding around the kidney.
- 

### What risks are there from the test?

- The doctor performing the paracentesis will review any risk with you before the test.

### Must I do any thing special after the test is over?

- The gel will be wiped off.
- After the fluid is removed and sent to the lab a Band-Aid will be placed on you abdomen.

If there is any thing we can do to make your more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.

## Ultrasound – Pelvic and Transvaginal

### What is the test?

- Ultrasound is a painless way to view the structures inside your pelvis using sound waves and a type of sonar detection system that generates a black and white picture.
- Depending on the view of your pelvic organs the ultrasound sonographer may position the ultrasound machine's wand to look through your abdominal wall (pelvic ultrasound) or to look through your vagina (transvaginal ultrasound). Ultrasound of the pelvic organs is useful for finding cysts on the ovaries, examining the lining of the uterus, looking for causes of infertility and looking for cancers and benign tumors of the pelvic region.

### How do I prepare for the test?

- If you are having a transvaginal ultrasound, you will need to remove a tampon if you have one in place.
- The abdominal pelvic ultrasound requires that you have a full bladder by drinking 32 oz of water or liquids (not soda) 1 hour before the test.
- You will be asked not to urinate until the test is over.
- You may eat food during this time.

### What happens when the test is performed?

- You will lie on your back on the table for the test. A Sonographer (the person trained to do ultrasounds) will first squirt some clear gel onto your lower abdomen to help the ultrasound sensor to slide around easily, and then they will place the sensor against your skin in the jelly. The sensor is like a microphone and will send and receive sound into your pelvis and a picture will appear on the video screen. The sonographer will move the sensor back and forth on your abdomen to see the internal organs from different views.
- For the transvaginal ultrasound, the sonographer will use a sensor that is shaped to easily fit inside the vagina. This will be covered with a clean probe cover and some of the clear jelly. When the sensor is in place a picture will appear on a TV screen, and the sonographer or doctor will move the sensor in your vagina to see the ovaries and uterus from many different views.

### Must I do any thing special after the test is over?

- The gel will be wiped off. You will have no side effects from the test.
- Your physician will receive the results within 24-48 hours.

If there is any thing we can do to make you more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.

## Ultrasound –Pregnancy

### What is the test?

- Ultrasound is a painless way to view the structures inside your uterus using sound waves and a type of sonar detection system that generates a black and white moving picture. Fetal ultrasound is useful for determining your pregnancy due date ( if you are not sure when your last period started) and evaluating the health of the baby and it's position. It can show some but not all birth defects. It is also useful for diagnosing twins and can sometimes give information about the sex of your baby.

### How do I prepare for the test?

- If you are less than 4 months you will be asked to drink about 32 oz. Of fluid (water, juice but not soda or carbonated water). And to hold you urine until we do the exam.
- If you are more than 4 months you do not have to drink any fluid. It is not required to hold you urine.

### What happens when the test is performed?

- You will lie on your back on the table for the test. A Sonographer (the person trained to do ultrasounds) will first squirt some clear gel onto your abdomen to help the ultrasound sensor to slide around easily, and then they will place the sensor against your skin. The sensor is like a microphone and will send and receive sound into your abdomen and a picture will appear on the video screen. The sonographer will move the sensor back and forth on your abdomen to see the baby from many different views. Depending on the age of you baby, the heart beat, movement of the arms and legs and many of the internal organs may be seen. The sonographer will look at your ovaries. An image of your cervix will be taken with a special wand that is designed to be placed in the vagina. This is not painful

### What risks are there from this test?

- There are no risks to either the mother or the fetus from the ultrasound.

### Must I do any thing special after the test is over?

- The gel will be wiped off. You will have not side effects for the test.
- Your physician will receive the results within 24-48 hours.

If there is any thing we can do to make your more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.

## Ultrasound – Testicular / Scrotum

### What is the test?

- A testicular/ scrotum ultrasound is a way to look inside the testicles and scrotal sac using sound waves. It is useful for determining if a lump is caused by a fluid pocket (a cyst) or a solid mass. It also looks for infections.

### How do I prepare for the test?

- No preparation is necessary.

### What happens when the test is performed?

- You will have to lie on your back. You will be instructed how to place your testicles on a towel. You will cover your other private parts with another towel. A sonographer or doctor will first squirt some clear gel onto the skin to help the ultrasound sensor slide around easily. Next the sensor is placed against your skin. The sensor looks like a microphone. A picture will appear on the TV screen. The sonographer or doctor will slide the sensor back and forth on the area of your testicles that is being examined to see the tissue inside for many different views. Images will be taken showing blood flow and you may hear a sound that resembles the wind or a heart beat.

### Must I do any thing special after the test is over?

- The gel will be wiped off. You will have no side effects for the test.
- Your physician will receive the results within 24-48 hours.

If there is any thing we can do to make you more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.

## Ultrasound – Thoracentesis

### What is the test?

- Some infections and diseases cause fluid to collect in the chest around the lungs. This collection is called pleural effusion. Ascities might be detected on an abdomen x-ray. Sampling this fluid is important because it lets the doctor to understand what is causing the fluid to collect and how to treat the problem. A needle is used to sample this fluid.

### How do I prepare for the test?

- You will be asked to sign a permission (consent) form allowing the doctor to perform this test. Tell the doctor if you have ever had an allergic reaction to the medicine “lidocaine” or the numbing medicine used at the dentist office.
- You will be asked not to eat or drink anything a few hours before the test- this is a safety precaution in case you are one of the rare patients who have a complication. You should continue to take your medicines with small sips of water.
- If you take aspirin, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs or medicines that affect the blood clotting talk with you doctor. You may have to stop or adjust the dose of these medicines before your test.

### What happens when the test is performed?

- For this test, you will sit on the edge of the bed and rest on a table with a pillow. Your skin will be cleaned with a special soap. A small needle will be used to numb a patch of the skin. The numbing medicine usually stings for a second. A needle with a empty syringe is then inserted in the fluid. You may feel some pressure as the needle is inserted. Depending on the amount of fluid the doctor is going to remove he/she may use just the syringe or he/she may insert a small plastic tube to collect a larger amount of fluid in a special jar.
- It sometimes takes 15-30 minutes to remove the necessary amount of fluid. The patient feels no discomfort during this time.
- You will have a bandage placed on your back where the needle was inserted. The sonographer will look again with the sensor to check for remaining fluid in the chest.

### What risks are there from the test?

- The doctor performing the paracnetesis will review any risk with you before the test.

## Must I do any thing special after the test is over?

- The gel will be wiped off.
- After the fluid is removed and sent to the lab a Band-Aid will be placed on you abdomen.

If there is any thing we can do to make your more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.

## Ultrasound – Thyroid or Neck

### What is the test?

- A thyroid or neck ultrasound is a way to look inside the thyroid or neck tissue using sound waves. It is useful for determining if a lump is caused by a fluid pocket (a cyst) or a solid mass.

### How do I prepare for the test?

- No preparation is necessary.

### What happens when the test is performed?

- You will have to lie on your back and a pillow will be placed under your back and your neck will be tilted back. A sonographer or doctor will first squirt some clear gel onto the skin to help the ultrasound sensor slide around easily. Next the sensor is placed against your skin in this jelly. The sensor looks like a microphone. A picture will appear on the TV screen. The sonographer or doctor will slide the sensor back and forth on the area of your thyroid or neck that is being examined to see the tissue inside for many different views.

### Must I do any thing special after the test is over?

- The gel will be wiped off. You will have no side effects for the test.
- Your physician will receive the results within 24-48 hours.

If there is any thing we can do to make you more comfortable while in the Ultrasound Department, please do not hesitate to ask.