

Ultrasound Scans

Ultrasound scans are very safe because they use sound waves instead of radiation. They are used to see the body's organs.

Ultrasound scans can be used on all ages and they are not contraindicated by any disease or medication. You can have a scan when wearing a pacemaker, implant, automatic implantable defibrillator (AID), glasses, false teeth, etc. You don't need to sign an informed consent form.

Ultrasound scans are made of many organs: the liver, spleen, pancreas, kidney, muscles, joints, thyroid, scrotum, lung, heart, blood vessels, skin, eye, nerves, breast, uterus, ovaries, prostate, etc.

The examination isn't painful or uncomfortable, and it's usually short.

The ultrasound scan is followed up with a written report and completed with photos, which should be sent to the doctor that asked for the scan.

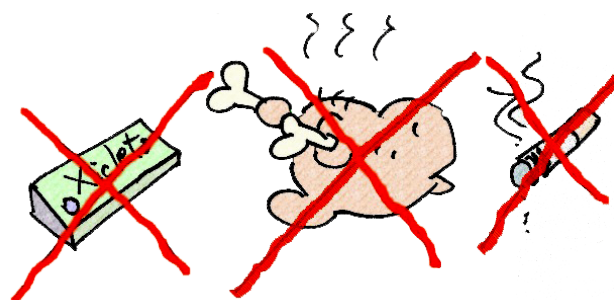
What kind of preparation is needed?

You should wash before going and wear clothes that are easy to take off and no necklaces.

You can take your normal medication as usual, as it doesn't affect the scan.

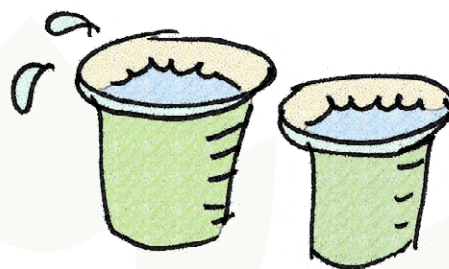
Only abdominal, kidney and prostate scans require special preparation:

- **Abdominal:** You must not eat any food for the 6 hours before the scan, but you can drink liquids or herbal teas. You shouldn't smoke or chew gum, either.



- **Kidney and prostate scans:** You will have to drink ½ litre of water (two full glasses) an hour and a half before the scan (your bladder must be full to do the scan). During the 2 hours before the scan you should not urinate.

- **Gynaecological ultrasound scans:** women that have not had sexual relations should follow the same preparation as for the renal scan.



In primary health care, abdominal and kidney ultrasound scans are often performed at the same time. In this case, you should go with an empty stomach and also have drunk