



OBSTETRIC ULTRASOUND



Overview:

Obstetric ultrasound uses sound waves to produce pictures of a developing embryo or foetus within pregnant women, as well as the mother's uterus and ovaries. It does not use ionizing radiation and has no known harmful effects.

Pre Procedure:

- You must drink plenty of water before the test as your bladder has to be full for the scan.
- Eat well prior to the scan to ensure that the foetus is active.
- Please inform the doctor about your medical history.
- Please bring your past medical records /CDs.

During Procedure:

- The entire procedure usually takes about 30 minutes. It is performed by the treating doctor with a nurse assisting at all times.
- Before the procedure, you will have to remove any jewellery or other objects that may interfere with the procedure.
- You are settled comfortably in an area where your privacy is respected throughout the procedure.

- You will have to lie down on a procedure table or bed.
- Gel will be applied to the abdomen to provide better contact between the skin and scanner.
- Doctor moves the scanner in various positions. Obstetric ultrasound is best if the fetus is examined in the different positions to optimally visualise the foetal parts .Pictures are sent instantly to a nearby monitor.
- Doctor may have to push quite firmly at times in order to see the deeper structures.
- The excess gel is wiped off gently after the scan.
- You may empty your bladder after the scan.

Post Procedure:

- There are no restrictions post the procedure.
- As the desired foetal positions may not be obtained in one sitting and multiple sittings will be required to complete the examination.