



701 10th Street SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403-1292
319 398-6011

Ultrasound Abdomen (RUQ, GB, Liver, Aorta, Abdomen Complete)

To Schedule: (319) 861-7778

Questions about Procedure: (319) 398-6050

What is an Ultrasound?

Ultrasound is an easy and noninvasive way to see internal structures of the body. It sends high-frequency sound waves through the skin and produces images of major organs. In an abdominal examination, ultrasound can visualize the liver, gallbladder, pancreas, spleen, kidneys, and large blood vessels.

Why Should I have an Ultrasound exam?

There are many reasons for examining the abdomen with ultrasound:

1. To look for causes of upper abdominal pain related to problems in the liver, gallbladder, pancreas, or kidneys.
2. To detect gallstones.
3. To determine abnormalities of the liver or spleen.
4. To look for enlargements (aneurysms) and other abnormalities of the abdominal blood vessels.

In some cases, ultrasound will not be able to provide all the information your doctor requires, in which case, additional studies will be needed.

Preparation:

The prep for the above exams is as follows:

If your appointment is before 12:00 noon, you should not eat or drink anything after midnight. Low fat meal the evening before is required.

If your exam is after 12:00 noon, then you should not eat or drink a minimum of 6 hours prior to your appointment. If you do have a meal 6 hours before your exam, it should be low fat.

You may not smoke or chew gum 6 hours prior to your appointment regardless if it is morning or afternoon.

PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:

A PHOTO ID TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY

A LIST OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS YOU ARE TAKING

Procedure:

There is no pain involved in an ultrasound exam of your abdomen. Ultrasound gel is placed on the skin surface to provide better contact between the transducer and the skin. Ultrasound takes 30 to 45 minutes, depending on the reason for the exam

Parking/Registration:

Park in the Mercy Medical Center 10th Street Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 10th Street and 8th Ave. SE. You will be pre-registered, so you can proceed to

Ground (G) level and follow the signs to “Radiology (X-Ray),” also located on Ground (G) level.

If you are having this procedure at the Mercy Health Plaza Imaging Center:

The Imaging Center is located in the NE corner of the Plaza next to Galaxy Theatre, at 5264 Council St. NE. Park in front of the building. You will be pre-registered, so you can proceed to the Reception desk.

Procedure Results (Who interprets the results):

A radiologist will review the images shortly after the exam is completed. A written report will be sent to your doctor. Your doctor will discuss the results with you. Please allow your physician time to review these results, usually 2 business days after the exam.

Your appointment date and time:

Procedure date: _____

Procedure time: _____ (Please arrive 15 minutes early)

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