

Your child's abdomen ultrasound scan

Department of Radiology

Last reviewed: March 2023

Next review: March 2027

Information for Patients, Parents and Carers

Leaflet number: 49 Version: 8

Introduction

If your child is an outpatient please read your appointment letter carefully to check which hospital their appointment is at.

This leaflet has been designed for you and your child to read together. It is important that your child knows what to expect when they come for an ultrasound scan so that the test can be completed quickly and easily.



Important information for parents and carers

- **If your child has diabetes** they should have been given an early morning appointment. If this is not the case it may be that we do not know that your child has diabetes. Please contact the Radiology Department on the phone number in your appointment letter or the end of this leaflet to ask for an early morning appointment.

You may also speak to your child's normal diabetes care provider about the eating and drinking instructions in the appointment letter.

You can bring food and drink for your child to have after the scan.
- **Getting to the hospital:** Transport has not been arranged for this appointment. If hospital transport is needed, please follow the instructions in your appointment letter.
- **If you need an interpreter, or if you have any special requirements**, please contact the radiology department for more information.
- **Medication should be taken as usual** unless you have been given different instructions by the doctor.
- **When your child is having the scan**, you may go into the scan room with your child. You can bring a dummy or their favourite small toy or game to play with during the scan.

**Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

What is an ultrasound scan?

Ultrasound is a way to look at different parts of your body. It uses sound that we cannot hear but the machine can detect. It is similar to the way dolphins use echo location to find food underwater.

The ultrasound machine has a TV screen and a keyboard like a computer. It also has a probe which is about the size of a mobile phone. We put the probe on your skin and move it around using some warm jelly. It is not painful but can sometimes tickle. The scan pictures can be seen straightaway on the TV screen.

How do I get ready for the ultrasound scan?

- **Babies who are only breastfeeding or bottle-fed (not started weaning)** can continue to feed. Try to avoid feeding for 1 hour before the scan.
- **Children under 5 years old** must not have any food, milk or sugary drinks for 4 hours before their appointment. They can continue to drink water or squash, but not fresh fruit juice or fizzy drinks.
- **Children who are over 5 years old** must not have any food, milk or sugary drinks for 6 hours before their appointment. They can continue to drink water or squash, but not fresh fruit juice or fizzy drinks.

You can bring some food and drink to have after the scan as you may be hungry and thirsty.

What happens in the scan room?

- You will be asked to lie down on the ultrasound table.
- You may be asked to pull your clothes up or down slightly away from the area being scanned.
- A small amount of warm jelly will be put onto your skin and the probe moved over it.
- A piece of paper towel will be tucked into your clothes to try to stop the jelly getting on them. If some of the jelly gets on your clothes it should not stain them but we cannot guarantee this.
- You might be asked to roll onto your side so we can scan in different positions.
- After the scan the jelly can be wiped off and you can go home. You can eat and drink as usual.

How long will it take?

- The time taken to do a scan will be different for each patient.
- The scan will taken between 10 and 20 minutes.

Who will be in the scan room?

- A doctor who specialises in X-rays (radiologist) or a sonographer will do the scan.
- There will also be a radiology assistant in the room who can help you if needed.
- 1 or both of your parents or carers may be able to come in with you.

How do I find out the results?

- You will not get the results straight away.
- After your scan we will tell your parent or carers who the results will go to and how to get your results.
- The doctor or sonographer will look at your scan pictures again.
- The results will be sent to the GP or hospital doctor who wanted you to have the scan.

What if I need to talk to someone?

If you have any questions or concerns, or cannot make the appointment please call the Radiology department on **0116 258 8765** and select **option 1**. Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm, but not on bank holidays.



Any questions?

If you have any questions you can write them down. This is to remind you to ask when you come for your scan.

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔
على هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل

જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

જે કુર્મીં ઇંચ નાદવારી કિમે હેર ડામ્મા દિચ ચાહુંદે હે, ડાં કિરખા વરહે હેઠાં દિંડે ગદે નંબર 'હે ટેલીફોન વરે।

Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

Previous reference:

If you would like this information in another language or format such as EasyRead or Braille, please telephone 0116 250 2959 or email equality@uhl-tr.nhs.uk