Ultrasound examination of abdomen

You have an appointment for an ultrasound examination where your abdominal blood vessels and lymph nodes, liver, gallbladder, kidneys, bladder, pancreas or spleen will be scanned, as referred by your doctor. No x-rays are used. A radiologist may, if deemed necessary, use contrast medium injected in your vein for the ultrasound examination. The contrast medium does not contain iodine.

Preparation for the examination

If you need an interpreter during the examination, please contact the attending unit.

Do not eat or drink anything (e.g. juice, coffee, milk), smoke or chew a chewing gum for at least four (4) hours before the examination. You can have a drink of water.

Do not urinate for 3 hours before the examination. If your bladder is too empty, part of the examination is not reliable.

You may take your morning medicines as usual. However, if you have **diabetes with tablet treatment**, do not take diabetes medication. If you have **diabetes with insulin treatment**, contact the referring facility for more detailed instruction for pre-examination procedures.

Examination

Ultrasound examination takes about 10 to 30 minutes. A radiologist or a sonographer performs the examination and gives a report of the findings.

During the examination you lie down with your stomach uncovered. First, water-soluble lukewarm ultrasound jelly is applied on your stomach. Then, a small ultrasound probe is moved up and down on your skin to create ultrasound images.

Sometimes the amount of urine remaining in the bladder after urinating is measured. In that case, you are guided to the nearest restroom and then back to the ultrasound suite.

After the examination

There is no need for post-procedure limitations or aftercare. If contrast medium was used, you need to stay in the radiology facility for monitoring for 30 minutes.

Your doctor will discuss the examination results with you.

Contact details

If you wish to have further information on the examination, please call us during working days between 13.00 and 15.00

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