



Ultrasound

Your doctor has recommended an Ultrasound as part of the investigation of your health problem. This is a guide to provide you with more information about what to expect of this investigation. If you have any questions about why you are to have this test, please ask your doctor. If you have any questions about the test, feel free to ask our staff.



How should I prepare for my ultrasound?

Preparation for your procedure will depend on the type of ultrasound being done and the body area being scanned. Our most common examinations and preparations are listed below.

Abdominal US

Assess the gallbladder, liver, spleen, pancreas, kidneys and aorta.

Preparation: Fast (nil by mouth) for 4 hours prior to your appointment. Different preparation for paediatric's - please ask our staff when booking an appointment.

Fetal or Obstetric US

Evaluates the size and age of a fetus and assesses its growth, development and well being during pregnancy. Fetal US will detect some, but not all fetal abnormalities.

Preparation: Drink 1 litre of water 1.5 hours prior to your appointment. Then do not empty your bladder.

Musculoskeletal or Breast US

Assessment of muscles, tendons, ligaments, joints and soft tissue throughout the body. No preparation is required.

Pelvic or Transvaginal US

Evaluates the uterus, ovaries and their surrounding anatomy. A pelvic US may require a specially designed transducer to be gently inserted into the vagina for more detailed images.

Preparation: Drink 1 litre of water 1.5 hours prior to your appointment. Then do not empty your bladder.

Renal US

Assess the kidneys and bladder. The prostate is also assessed in males.

Preparation: Fast from food for 4 hours prior to your appointment. Drink 1 litre of water 1.5 hours prior to your appointment. Then do not empty your bladder.

Renal Artery Doppler US

Evaluates the blood flow to the kidneys through the renal artery.

Preparation: These scans are performed in the morning. Please fast for 6 hours prior to your appointment.

Scrotal US

Evaluates abnormalities of the testicles and surrounding tissues.

Preparation: No special preparation is needed.

Thyroid US

Evaluates the size of the thyroid gland and looks for thyroid nodules.

Preparation: No special preparation is needed.



Vascular or Carotid / Deep Vein US

Evaluates the body's circulatory system by monitoring the blood flow to organs and tissues throughout the body. Vascular US provides a non-invasive means to evaluate blockages to blood flow, such as clots in veins or plaque in arteries.

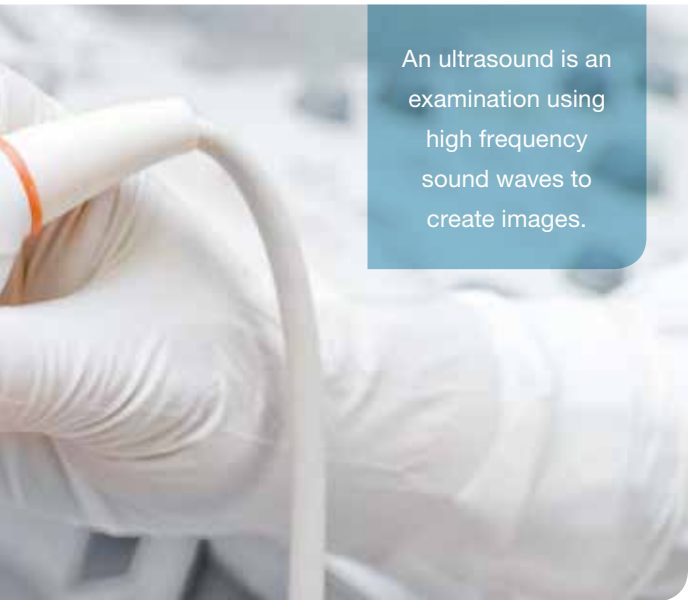
Preparation: No preparation is needed.

Paediatric US

North Shore Radiology offers a dedicated paediatric ultrasound service. We have a number of radiologists who specialise in paediatric ultrasound imaging.

Our most common scans are:

- Paediatric hips
- Renal US
- Abdominal US
- Head US
- Lumps



An ultrasound is an examination using high frequency sound waves to create images.

- Paediatric spines / dimples
- Scrotal

Preparation:

Abdominal:	0-3 years: no preparation unless pyloric stenosis 3-6 years: 2 hour fast 6-12 years: 3 hour fast 12 years and older: 4 hour fast
Renal:	0-3years: well hydrated 3-12yrs: drink 500mls water/juice 30 mins prior to appointment 12-15 years: fast 3 hours, drink 500mls of water 30 mins prior to appointment and hold 15yrs and older: fast 4 hours, drink 1 litre water 1 hour prior to appointment and hold
Paediatric Hips:	Well fed prior to appointment

Results: A radiologist will interpret all images produced during the examination and the results will be forwarded to your doctor.



What is an Ultrasound?

An ultrasound is an examination using high frequency sound waves to create images. Ultrasound does not involve radiation. The procedure is performed by a sonographer.

What to expect during your examination?

After you enter the examination room, the sonographer will ask you some brief questions concerning your medical history and current symptoms. You will be asked to lie on an examination table and the sonographer will apply a gel to the skin. A transducer is moved across the area to be imaged, while watching a continuous image on a computer screen and images are recorded. No discomfort is usually felt during the examination.

It is not unusual for the radiologist to come in and speak with you and view the images on the screen.

How long does it take?

Ultrasound exams generally take between 15-60 minutes, however this may vary depending on the complexity of the examination.

Parking information for North Shore Private Hospital



You can reach us by car, bus, train or taxi. We are located within the grounds of the Royal North Shore Hospital in St. Leonards, just off the Pacific Highway or Gore Hill Freeway. Metered street parking is available on Westbourne Street. Parking is also available in the multi-storey car parks P1 & P2. Concession, daily and weekly passes are available for purchase at the Parking Office located in the P2 multi-storey car park. The Parking Office also has information about long-term parking costs and conditions. Valet Parking is available from the main entrance of North Shore Private Hospital via Westbourne Street.

For more information, please visit our website www.northshoreradiology.com.au

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