

What is a Pelvic Ultrasound?

A pelvic ultrasound is an ultrasound exam of the uterus and ovaries. High frequency sound waves are used to obtain images of structures inside the body. Ultrasound imaging can help the radiologist determine normal and abnormal anatomy within a female pelvis.

Why did the doctor order this exam for me?

Pelvic pain, abnormal bleeding, palpable masses detected during your pelvic exam or other menstrual problems are some of the common reasons to undergo a pelvic ultrasound.

What do I need to do to prepare for this exam?

A full bladder is needed for this exam.

What should I expect from this test?

The sonographer will ask questions concerning your medical history and the problems you are experiencing. You will undress from the waist down and place a gown on. You will lie on your back and a transducer (hand held device that transmits sound waves), with gel on it, that will be rubbed along your pelvis. You will then be asked to empty your bladder in a restroom and a second part of your test, a transvaginal ultrasound, will begin. You will lie on your back again and a sponge may be placed under your hips with your knees bent. You will be asked to help place the transducer into your vagina, similar to a pelvic exam in your doctor's office. After the images have been obtained, you will be able to get dressed. **Please allow 30 to 45 minutes for this exam.** Your bladder must be full to begin the exam. You may need to drink more water to fill completely, which could delay the exam.

Who will perform the exam?

A registered sonographer will perform this exam in the Imaging department. If you would like a chaperone present during this exam, please inform the sonographer.

How will I get results of the exam?

You will receive your results from your ordering physician. This may take 3-5 days for the office to contact you. Please contact the ordering physician if it has been longer than 5 days.



Contact the Imaging department with questions prior to your exam, 217-762-1820.