

Abdomen and Small Parts

What is an Abdominal and/ or small parts ultrasound study?

An abdominal ultrasound is an ultrasound exam of the liver, kidneys, gallbladder, pancreas and spleen. A small parts ultrasound is an ultrasound of the thyroid, or testicle. High frequency sound waves are used to obtain imaging and can help diagnose a variety of conditions including gallstones, kidney diseases, and cysts versus solid masses, also to evaluate blood flow to organs.



Why did the doctor order this exam for me?

Pain, nausea or vomiting, abnormal lab values, or enlargement of certain body structures are some possible reasons for the exam.

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

If you are having an abdomen ultrasound, you will need to fast six hours prior. No special preparation is needed for a small parts ultrasound.

What should I expect from this exam?

The sonographer will ask questions regarding your medical history and the problems you are experiencing. You will lie on your back for these tests; some require you to change into a gown. A transducer (hand held device that transmits sound waves) will be rubbed over your abdomen, thyroid, or testicle. A gel is used with the transducer to produce clear images on the computer screen. These exams will take 30-45 minutes each.

Who will perform the exam?

A registered sonographer will perform the exam in the Imaging department.

How will I get the results of the exam?

You will receive your results from the 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 for any questions prior to your exam, 217-762-1820.