

An obstetric ultrasound is as safe an accurate investigation of your unborn baby. Ultrasound uses high frequency sound waves to obtain images.

X-Ray · Ultrasound · MRI · Biopsy · Angiography · CT  
Mammography · Bone Mineral Densitometry · Dental X-Rays  
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**Belconnen** Lakeview Square  
**Bruce** Calvary Clinic  
**Deakin** Calvary John James Hospital  
**Erindale** Valley Diagnostic Centre  
**Garran** Brindabella Specialist Centre  
**Goulburn** X-Ray Bourke Street  
**Queanbeyan** Morisset House  
**Turner** Construction House

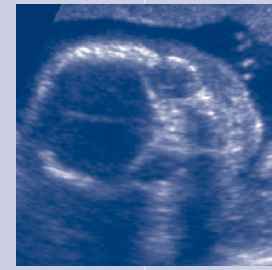
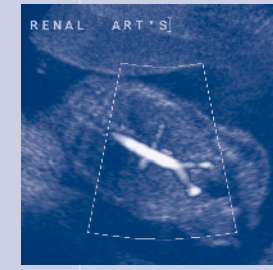
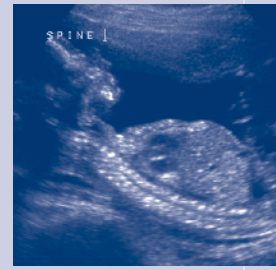
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## Why have an ultrasound?

Your doctor has requested that you have an ultrasound as a non-invasive investigation to assist in monitoring your pregnancy. This examination may provide valuable information about your pregnancy that will assist the doctor in ensuring a successful outcome for you and your baby.

**There are many reasons a doctor may request an ultrasound. Some of these are:**

- To assess the growth of a baby.
- To assess the number of babies.
- To assist in determining the gestational age (when the baby is due).
- To check for possible abnormalities.
- To determine if the pregnancy is continuing normally: often following bleeding in the early stages of pregnancy.
- To follow-up on any bleeding later in the pregnancy: often to check the position of the placenta.

## Preparation

To assist the sonographer in obtaining clear images, you will be asked to attend with a full bladder.

This is achieved by emptying your bladder 2 hours before your appointment and then immediately drinking 600ml of water. Do not empty your bladder again before the procedure.

You may eat normally and take any necessary medication.

## Attendance

Your procedure will take up to approximately 40 minutes after which you may be asked to wait while the images are prepared and reported.

It is important that you are on time for your appointment to ensure there is sufficient time available to perform the procedure.

**Please bring any relevant films and your referral to your appointment.**

## The Procedure

An ultrasound is an active procedure with images changing as the probe, baby and mother move. As a result, the operator requires considerable concentration to examine the baby, collect images and perform measurements.

It is our aim to provide the highest level of diagnostic value for you and your baby.

## The Diagnostic component

During the diagnostic part of the procedure it is important that the operator concentrate on the scanning procedure. For this reason, our sonographer may prefer to work with a one on one situation. As it is often difficult for you or family members not to ask questions that may interrupt during this crucial time, we ask that family members wait outside. This usually takes about 20 minutes.

## The Informative component

At this stage you may include your partner or family member. The operator will then be able to describe the aspects and features of your baby's images and answer any questions.

A picture of your ultrasound is prepared at this time.

## Images

You will be provided with a small paper picture or CD of the baby in addition to the full set of images.

## Limitations

An Ultrasound detects many, but not all, abnormalities and this procedure will not guarantee a normal baby. Due to the position of the baby, gestational age or normal variations, some features may not be clear at the time of the procedure. Do not be alarmed if the operator recommends another scan or further tests.

## Your visit to Canberra Imaging Group

Canberra Imaging Group strongly advise that you return to your referring doctor in order for your doctor to discuss your radiology report with you.