

ABDOMINAL ULTRASOUND (Complete)

Purpose:

To evaluate abdominal organs (including liver, spleen, gallbladder, bile ducts, pancreas, kidneys, and the major arteries and veins). Doppler techniques may be used to evaluate blood flow if necessary.

Physician note: If interested in only one of these organs, order “Limited Abdomen, Attention: [specify organ of interest]”.

How long will this procedure take?

This study will take 15 to 45 minutes.

Preparation:

Nothing to eat after midnight. You may take your normal medications with water. Fasting exams are usually performed in the morning. If you are diabetic, please advise; special arrangements will be made.

If this study is being done in conjunction with a Pelvic Ultrasound, in addition to the above preparation, you must drink 36 oz. of water 45 minutes prior to the exam. **Important:** You must not empty your bladder until the exam is completed.

Procedure:

You will be asked to lie on a table where a technologist will apply a gel to your abdomen and move a transducer to various points across your abdomen in order to best demonstrate anatomy. You may be asked to hold your breath for a short time for the images. The technologist may ask you to turn into different positions.

After the examination:

A radiologist will study your films and dictate a report which will be sent to your physician within 24 hours.