







Betrouwbare diagnostiek in de buurt.



General ultrasound

At Diagnovum



Your General Practitioner (GP) has referred you for an ultrasound scan. Diagnovum performs these scans, which focus on the soft tissues (such as organs, muscles, scrotum and blood vessels) of the body. This leaflet explains all about the procedure before, during and after the scan.

Ultrasound

An ultrasound scan can be made of areas including the following: upper abdomen; lower abdomen; the kidneys, urinary tract and major blood vessels in the legs; neck and thyroid; soft tissue, such as muscles, scrotum or other organs/structures.

Purpose of the scan

Ultrasound can be used to examine the shape and composition of a particular part of the body. For instance, if an organ is smaller or larger than normal and/or contains additional tissue, it is visible on the ultrasound equipment's monitor.



Execution

After your arrival at Diagnovum at the agreed time, a staff member will take you to the examination room. The scan itself is performed by a radiologist. Before this commences, you will be asked to sit or lie down on an examination table. The person performing the scan moves a small device, which emits sound waves, over the skin. A small quantity of special gel is therefore applied to improve 'contact' with the skin. The reflected sound waves are received by the same device, then converted into moving images in the ultrasound machine.

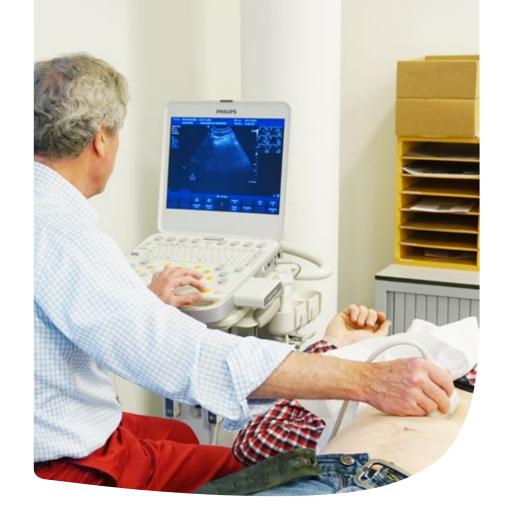
Preparation

The ultrasound scan has no side effects whatsoever. You can therefore travel to and from Diagnovum by car or public transport. We kindly request that you to bring along your GP's referral form.

Please note! In case of an ultrasound scan of the kidneys and urinary tract, you need to attend the appointment with a full bladder. Details of preparation for an ultrasound scan of the upper or lower abdomen follow below.

Ultrasound scan of the upper abdomen

An ultrasound scan of the upper abdomen focuses primarily on the liver, gallbladder, pancreas, spleen and major blood vessels in this area. It is important that you attend with an empty stomach. If your appointment is in the morning, this means you should not eat or drink anything from midnight the night before. You may drink a little water or tea without milk and sugar, however. If the ultrasound scan is performed in the afternoon, you may eat something readily digestible at around eight o'clock that morning. Such a light breakfast consists of water or tea without milk and sugar, and two rusks with a little jam (no fat). You should not drink coffee, however. You should not eat anything else between taking the light breakfast and attending your appointment. You may only drink a little water, or tea without milk and sugar. If your appointment is after 14:30, however, you may eat one rusk at around 11:00 (basically ensuring you take nil by mouth for four hours beforehand).



Ultrasound scan of the lower abdomen

An ultrasound scan of the lower abdomen examines the kidneys and urinary tract, bladder, uterus and ovaries. Such a scan has to be performed with a full bladder. This means that you should last go to the toilet one and a half hours before the scan. After doing so, you should immediately drink half a litre of