



## TRANSVAGINAL ULTRASOUND PATIENT INFORMATION

### WHAT IS A PELVIC ULTRASOUND?

A pelvic ultrasound is a noninvasive transabdominal or 'external' diagnostic exam that produces images which are used to assess organs and structures within the female pelvis. A pelvic ultrasound allows quick visualization of the female pelvic organs and structures.

### WHAT IS A TRANSVAGINAL ULTRASOUND?

A transvaginal ultrasound, also called an endovaginal ultrasound, is a type of 'internal' pelvic ultrasound used by doctors to examine female reproductive organs.

#### PROCEDURE OUTLINE:

- Transvaginal scanning requires the insertion of the appropriate transducer into the patient's vagina. Insertion is usually done by the patient or by the sonographer.
- The patient must understand from the explanation that this will be an internal ultrasound, and that she may refuse. Each patient must sign the consent form prior to probe insertion.



- You will be asked to sign a consent form prior to test.
- A full bladder is required. Finish 1 litre (4 cups) of water 1 hour prior to the appointment.

## INDICATIONS

- Abnormalities in the anatomy of the uterus, including its endometrial lining.
- To assess uterine fibroids (benign growths).
- To assess masses and cysts arising from the ovaries, as well as from other locations in the pelvis.
- Confirm the presence and position of an intrauterine contraceptive device (IUD).
- To evaluate for endometriosis.
- To evaluate for certain causes of pelvic pain and abnormal menstrual bleeding.
- Post-menopausal bleeding.
- Monitoring of ovarian follicle size for fertility assessment.
- To assess for ectopic pregnancy (pregnancy occurring outside of the uterus, usually in the fallopian tube).
- For evaluation of pregnancies in the first trimester, when needed.

## CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Intact hymen and/or patient that is not sexually active.
- Intolerance to introduction of the transducer. The patient or the sonographer (if the patient consents) may introduce the transducer. If there is unusual discomfort, or if the patient appears to be in pain, discontinue the procedure.
- Cervical or Vaginal Stenosis.
- If ordering physician contraindicated a transvaginal ultrasound.

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