

Ultrasound / Sonogram:

Pratt Regional Medical Center



What you can expect:

Ultrasound/Sonogram is a non-invasive medical imaging procedure used to diagnose, treat and prevent medical conditions relating to organs or systems in the body.

Sonography is performed by a trained Sonographer or Physician that uses a device called a transducer. The transducer sends out high frequency ultrasound waves which then produces an image on the computer screen. These are harmless sound waves, which contain no radiation, and bounce off the surfaces of the object they hit.

What happens during an ultrasound? An odorless, colorless gel is applied to your skin around the area of your body that will be examined. The transducer is then placed on the gel to make a conduction for the soundwave to produce an image. Some ultrasounds will have a protocol preparation for you as a patient. These preparations will depend on which test you are having. Nothing to eat or drink (NPO) when looking at abdomen structures. Full bladder when looking at pelvic anatomy, OB anatomy or bladder structures.

Ultrasounds are used for numerous reasons. Your Physicians may order one to determine the best way to treat you; monitor fetal growth for pregnant women; monitor the health of your heart, abdomen, vascular structures (veins/arteries) or musculoskeletal systems (muscles, ligaments, tendons, soft tissues and joint effusions).

The typical ultrasound exams will take on average an hour.

After an ultrasound.

After you are finished with your ultrasound exam you will be able to return to normal activities.