Pelvic Ultrasound

Your doctor has ordered this test to assess your pelvic organs. This test uses sound waves to get pictures of the female reproductive organs, such as the cervix, uterus and ovaries.

If you have had a hysterectomy, but still have your ovaries, this test is a good first step for checking your ovaries. However, for some women, the ovaries are not visible, and the radiologist may recommend further testing.

Best time to schedule the test

- If you are menstruating regularly, schedule your test between days 5 to 11 of your cycle.
- If you have ongoing menstrual bleeding or are on hormone therapy, it does not matter when your test is scheduled.

To prepare for the test

- As this test is similar to a pelvic exam, you may not want to bring children with you to this visit.
- You must have a full bladder for your ultrasound. Drink 32 to 40 ounces, or 5 cups, of fluid 1 to 2 hours before the test. Water is best, but you can drink any kind of fluid except something that has caffeine.
- DO NOT go to the bathroom. Having the fluid in your bladder is important to get good pictures during the test.

Day of the test

- Please arrive 15 minutes before your appointment time unless you have been asked to arrive earlier.
- When you arrive, you will be asked to fill out a form for your insurance and billing information. Remember to bring a picture ID and your insurance card(s) with you.
**During the test**

- The test will take about one hour.
- With a full bladder, the technologist will place a probe covered in gel over your abdomen to look at your uterus. Pictures will be taken for the radiologist, a doctor that specializes in radiology.
- You will then go to the bathroom and empty your bladder.
- You will undress from the waist down and place your legs in stirrups. A covered ultrasound probe will be inserted a few inches into the vagina to look more closely at the pelvic area.
- The probe will be removed after the technologist has the needed pictures.

**After your test**

Your ultrasound will be read by a radiologist and the results will be sent to your doctor.

*If you need to change your appointment or have questions, please call Radiology Scheduling at 614-293-4333.*