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Jeżeli chcemy, aby te informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić 01932 723553

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FEMALE PELVIC ULTRASOUND

Ultrasound Department
Radiology

WHAT IS A PELVIC ULTRASOUND?

Pelvic ultrasound is an examination in which high frequency ultrasound waves are used to generate an image of the organs in the pelvis, notably the womb (uterus) and ovaries. The procedure is often used as a first line investigation for the examination of these organs.

Reasons for a referral include pelvic pain, irregular or heavy bleeding and abdominal bloating. Ultrasound is of use in detecting such abnormalities as abnormal thickening of the womb lining, uterine fibroids, ovarian cysts and ovarian tumours.

Ultrasound is also used extensively during pregnancy, both in the early stage and also for monitoring the progress of the developing baby (foetus).

PREPARING FOR A PELVIC ULTRASOUND

Depending on what technique is used, either having a full bladder prior to the examination or no preparation is required. Often both techniques are used at one examination.

WHAT DOES A PELVIC ULTRASOUND ENTAIL?

There are two types of pelvic ultrasound. In the first type the ultrasound probe is applied to the skin of the lower abdomen.

A full bladder is needed which is used as a “window” to view the pelvic organs. Often the patient needs to drink water beforehand, arriving for the examination with a full bladder.

In the second type of examination termed transvaginal or endovaginal ultrasound, a probe is placed in the vagina. This type of examination gives better detailed images of the pelvis than the lower abdominal type. There is no preparation for this type of ultrasound.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A PELVIC ULTRASOUND?

Following the ultrasound scan the doctor will either give you or send you a copy of the results of your examination. Your referring doctor will also receive a full report of the examination.

DOES IT HURT?

Some patients find holding a full bladder uncomfortable. With the transvaginal examination there may be minor discomfort on introducing the probe only.

ARE THERE ANY RISKS ATTACHED?

Diagnostic Pelvic Ultrasound does not carry any known risk to the patient or developing foetus.

QUERIES

If you have any queries regarding the contents of this leaflet please contact the Appointments office on **01932 723054**.

Further Information

We endeavour to provide an excellent service at all times, but should you have any concerns please, in the first instance, raise these with the Matron, Senior Nurse or Manager on duty. If they cannot resolve your concern, please contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01932 723553 or email pals@asph.nhs.uk. If you still remain concerned please contact our Complaints Manager on 01932 722612 or email complaints@asph.nhs.uk

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