

Having an injection during an ultrasound

Introduction

There is no need to follow any preparation prior to this procedure.

A health care assistant will greet you in the ultrasound area and one will be present during your examination. The scan is conducted by a radiologist (specialist X-ray doctor).

A relative or friend can usually accompany you; however, no childcare facilities are available. If you would like to be chaperoned during the ultrasound examination, please speak to a member of staff in the ultrasound department.

What is an ultrasound?

An ultrasound scan uses high frequency sound waves to create an image of your abdomen. To date, there are no known documented risks associated with this test.

What happens during the ultrasound?

If you wish, you may change into a gown for the examination.

An ultrasound machine uses sound waves to produce pictures of the body. Warm gel is placed on an ultrasound probe, which is then moved over the skin of the area to be examined. The lights are dimmed to allow the examiner to see the ultrasound screen more clearly. Most examinations last between 15 to 20 minutes. A radiologist will then discuss with you any further treatment available on the day. This usually involves a small injection of an anti-inflammatory steroid into the area of pain to alleviate your symptoms.

After the ultrasound

Following the scan, you can get dressed and leave immediately. You may be advised to take some painkillers such as paracetamol.

Results

A report of your examination will be sent to your referring doctor usually within 24 hours. If this is a hospital specialist, then the specialist may contact your GP with the report.

Further information

www.nhs.uk/conditions/Ultrasound-scan/Pages/Introduction.aspx

More information is available on the Trust website: www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk

This document can be made available in other languages and formats upon request.