

## Abdominal ultrasound

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### Why the scan is being done

Your doctor has ordered an abdominal ultrasound for you.

An ultrasound scan is used to look at the blood vessels and organs in the abdominal area; such as the liver, gallbladder, kidneys, bladder, pancreas and spleen.

### Getting ready for the scan

#### Children

No preparations are needed for children under 7 years.

Children over 7 year follow the same instructions as adults.

#### Adults

Do not eat or drink anything for 6 hours before the scan.

You are allowed to take your regular medications with a little water.

Carbonated beverages, chewing gum and tobacco are not allowed as they cause intestinal gas.

Your bladder should be full during the scan. Do not go to the toilet for 2–3 hours before the examination.

If you have a urinary catheter, close it 2-3 hours before the scan.

### How the scan is done

The ultrasound scan is painless. You will be lying on your back on an examination table.

The examination is performed by a radiologist or a sonographer (a radiographer specialising in ultrasound).

The doctor or sonographer will apply gel on the skin on your stomach and move the ultrasound probe over the skin of the area being examined.

You will be given instructions on how to breathe during the scan.

The scan takes 10–30 minutes, however you should reserve slightly more time for your appointment.

### Where do you get the scan results

You will get the results from the referring outpatient clinic or ward.

If you were referred from your health centre, make an appointment at your health centre to hear the results.

### Other considerations

There is no separate fee for the scan; it is included in the outpatient clinic fee.

If you are unable to attend your scheduled scan appointment, please let us know as soon as possible.

## **Contact information**

If you have any questions about the examination, please contact the imaging unit you are scheduled to attend.

### **Eura, Kankaanpää, Pori and Rauma:**

You can call our joint service number:

044 707 9202.

Phone hours:

Monday to Friday,

8 am–2.30 pm.

### **Harjavalta:**

Harjavalta Diagnostic Imaging,

Appointments,

Tel. 02 677 3922.

Phone hours:

Monday to Friday,

8 am–4 pm.