



Abdominal Ultrasound / Sonogram Instructions

A sonogram is also called an ultrasound. It is a painless procedure that uses sound waves to create pictures of the body. An abdominal sonogram is a study of the liver, gallbladder, spleen, pancreas, intestines, kidneys and bladder. A gallbladder ultrasound is a study of the gallbladder only.

Procedure

Your child will lie on a soft table. The sonographer, a registered specialist performing the sonogram, will put a warm gel on your child's skin. He or she will use a transducer (wand) to view pictures of the body. These pictures are visible on the ultrasound monitor. This procedure will take about 45 to 60 minutes.

Preparation

If you have any concerns about your child holding still during this exam, please call the radiology nurse at (214) 559-7450. The nurse will help you determine if your child needs a mild sedation or general anesthesia. If so, the radiology nurse will schedule your child's ultrasound exam and will follow up with instructions one to two days before to the sedation and exam.

Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children requires at least two hours of patient monitoring after the last dose of sedation medicine is given. Please expect to stay two to three hours in the radiology department if your child needs sedation.

Please follow the preparation instructions for your child's age:

- **Newborns to 12 months:** Stop all milk or solid food four hours before the procedure. Give your baby all scheduled medicines at the regular times unless told differently by your child's doctor or the radiology department.
- **13 months to 35 months:** Stop all solid milk and solid food six hours before the procedure. Give your toddler all scheduled medicines at the regular times unless told otherwise by your child's doctor or the radiology department.
- **36 months to 18 years:** No milk, drinks, or solid food for eight (8) hours before the scheduled procedure. Give your child all scheduled medicines at the regular times unless told differently by your child's doctor or the radiology department.

Please call (214) 559-7450 if you need to cancel or reschedule your child's appointment or if you have any questions or concerns about this procedure.