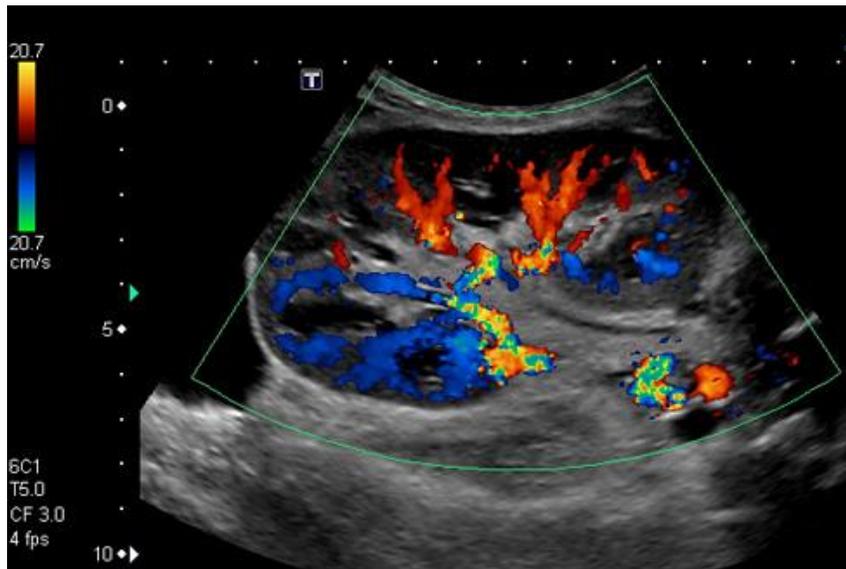


Renal Transplant Ultrasound

What is a kidney (renal) ultrasound?

An ultrasound of the kidneys is an exam to evaluate the structure and size of the transplant kidney and bladder. Unfortunately, ultrasound cannot evaluate the function of the kidney itself, but it can look for anything that may be physically affecting the function and evaluate the blood flow going to and from the kidney.



How does the ultrasound work?

Ultrasound sends sound waves into the body using a transducer, a hand-held device that sends and receives sound waves. For the exam, the sonographer will apply warm gel to your abdomen and place the transducer against your skin to take pictures. When the sound waves reflect back to the transducer from inside the body, an image is created on the screen. Ultrasound does NOT use radiation.

How should I prepare?

- There is no prep for this exam
- Wear loose-fitting clothing that is easy to take off and put on

How long will it take?

45 minutes

Why would my doctor order this?

- Evaluate a mass or cyst
- To determine kidney size and shape
- Diabetes
- Chronic kidney disease
- Hematuria or blood in the urine
- Elevated creatinine
- Pain over the transplant
- Kidney stones
- Other

What will happen during the exam?

You may be asked to change into a hospital gown so that the ultrasound gel does not get on your clothes. You will lie on your back while the sonographer applies the warm gel to your abdomen and move the transducer around to take pictures. The ultrasound is fairly easy and painless. If you are having abdominal pain, you may feel some discomfort during the exam, so please let the sonographer know if this occurs.

How will I get the results?

After all of the images are obtained, they are reviewed by a radiologist who specializes in ultrasound. They will send the results to your doctor who ordered the exam. In some cases, the radiologist may review the preliminary results with you after the exam is over.