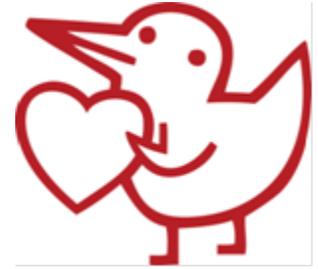
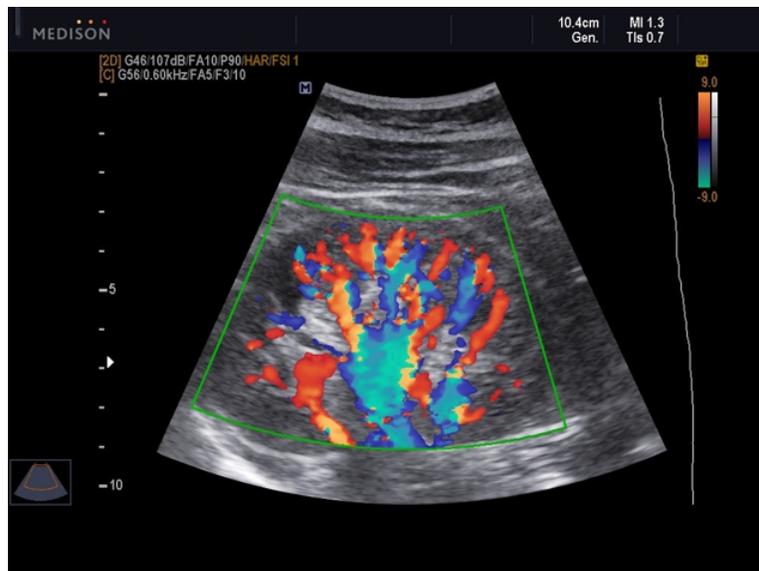


Pediatric Abdominal, Pelvic or Kidney Ultrasound



What is an abdominal or pelvic ultrasound?

An ultrasound may be performed to look at many of the organs in the abdomen such as the stomach, kidneys, liver, gallbladder, bladder, or spleen. A pelvic ultrasound is able to evaluate the uterus and ovaries (in girls). Ultrasound is not able to evaluate the cellular function of the organs, but it is excellent for evaluating the presence, absence or location of organs, the structural formation of the organ, and other anatomical abnormalities.



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 child's abdomen and place the transducer against his/her 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/my child prepare?

- For an abdominal ultrasound:
 - Infant-Preschooler (birth-age 5): No prep
 - Child-Youth (age 5- 12): No food or drink for 4 hours
 - Teenager-Adult (age 13-17): No food or drink for 8 hours
- For a renal (kidney) ultrasound only, try to be well hydrated and drink lots of fluids as it is helpful to have urine in the bladder

- For a pelvic ultrasound (a full bladder is necessary for the most optimal exam):
 - Infant-Preschooler (birth-age 5): No prep
 - Child-Youth (age 5-12): Drink water/juice prior to exam and try not to empty bladder
 - Teenager-Adult (age 13-17): Drink 3 cups of water prior to exam and do not empty bladder.
- Your child may need to remove some of his/her clothing, so it may help to have something easy to take off.
- If your child wears diapers, you may need extra diapers, as sometimes the gel gets on the diaper.
- For children who may not want to sit still, a favorite distraction or comfort item may be helpful. We do have DVD players and a large selection of movies, but you are welcome to bring your child's favorite DVD.

**If you and your child would like a pre-procedure tour please contact Swedish's dedicated child life specialists at 206-386-6283.*

How long will it take?

45 minutes

Why would my doctor order this?

- Abdominal ultrasounds may be ordered if your child is experiencing pain, has a mass felt under the skin, has abnormal blood tests, has had an infection, projectile vomiting in an infant, or many other reasons.
- Kidney ultrasounds are routinely ordered for children with who have had urinary tract infections, blood in their urine, high blood pressure, bedwetting, to follow up something seen prior to the birth of the child, or other kidney or bladder problems.
- A pelvic ultrasound is often done on a child who is having pain, has early signs of puberty, has an abnormality seen prior to birth, or other abnormalities of the genital system.

What will happen during the exam?

Your child will lie on his/her back on a bed and will need to remove any clothing covering the area that needs to be scanned. The sonographer will apply warm gel onto your child's abdomen. Then he/she will gently place the transducer on his/her skin. By changing the position of the transducer they will obtain the images needed for the exam. The exam is fairly easy and will not hurt your child.

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 child's doctor who ordered the exam. In some cases, the radiologist may review the preliminary results with you after the exam is over.