Examinations Available

General Ultrasound

Abdomen, Renal, Breast, Thyroid, Testes

Obstetric & Gynaecological

First, Second & Third Trimester, First Trimester Screening, (NT Down Syndrome Screening), Pelvic

Musculoskeletal

Shoulder, Groin, Hip, Ankle etc

(cortisone injections)

Vascular

Deep Vein Thrombosis, Arterial Studies, Renovascular, Carotid Duplex, Abdominal Aorta

Echocardiography

Adult & Paediatric

Appointment Times

8.30 am—5.00 pm
Monday to Friday

Appointments can be made during office hours which are:

9.00 am to 5.00 pm
Monday to Friday

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Diagnostic Ultrasound Imaging

Elastography Patient Information

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Ultrasound Examination of the liver

Diffuse liver disease is one of the major health problems in the world. It can result from many causes, including viral hepatitis (Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C), non-alcoholic or alcoholic fatty liver disease, autoimmune hepatitis, drug-induced liver injury, primary biliary cirrhosis, and several other less frequent etiologies.

Thanks to recent advances in Ultrasound we can now help diagnose fibrosis in patients with chronic liver disorders including chronic Hepatitis and Fatty Liver Disease.

What Is liver fibrosis?

Liver fibrosis occurs when tough, fibrous scar tissue of the liver accumulates and forms excessive scar tissue. When excessive scar tissue builds up over a long period of time it can result in cirrhosis of the liver.

How will the liver be examined?

The liver will be examined using ultrasound and Shear Wave Elastography.

What Is Ultrasound?

An ultrasound image is produced by the reflection of sound waves. Sound waves are sent into the body via a transducer, (probe) which is a small hand-held device placed on the relevant body part by the sonographer.

A moving black and white image appears on the ultrasound screen, (similar to a television screen) allowing the sonographer to examine different body parts.

What Is Elastography?

Elastography is a non-invasive, reproducible, and effortlessly performed method of examining the liver allowing assessment of the degree of liver fibrosis.

A special pulse sequence technique that uses existing transducers produces shear waves in tissue and then measures the propagation speed of the waves .

You may be asked to hold your breath whilst serial measurements are taken in an area of your liver.

Elastography is easily combined with a routine abdominal ultrasound.

Is Ultrasound & Elastography Safe?

There are no known harmful effects associated with the medical use of sonography. Widespread clinical use of diagnostic ultrasound for many years has not revealed any harmful effects.

Studies in humans have revealed no direct link between the use of diagnostic ultrasound and any adverse outcome. Although the remote possibility exists that biological effects may be identified in the future, current information indicates that the benefits to patients far outweigh any hypothetical risks.

Elastography will better assist referring doctors in estimating prognosis and deciding on appropriate courses of treatment for patients with liver disease.

In select patients Elastography may eliminate the need for painful and costly liver biopsies for staging of fibrosis.

Preparation

You will need to fast 8 hours prior for this particular ultrasound. Clear fluids may be taken as desired.

Procedure

During the scanning procedure, a layer of gel is applied over the abdomen and a transducer is placed on your skin. The transducer will be moved back and forth over the abdomen and images obtained. You may be requested to hold your breath at certain times during the examination.

After the examination, the gel is simply wiped from your skin.

Examination & Reporting time

Ultrasound examinations usually take approximately 20-30 minutes, and after the procedure the results will be reported in 5 - 10 minutes.

We strongly advise that you return to your referring doctor in order for your doctor to discuss your ultrasound report with you.