

BREAST ULTRASOUND

What is it?

A breast ultrasound is an examination of the breast using sound waves. Ultrasound is the first test undertaken to evaluate any breast problem in the under 35 age group.

What preparation is needed for the examination?

There is no special preparation required for this examination but you are advised to dress with separates (ie, trousers/skirt and top), as you will be asked to undress to the waist.

What exactly happens during the examination?

When you arrive in the Department a female radiographic helper will take you into the room and explain the procedure to you. Please feel free to ask any questions you may have. You will be asked to lie on the couch and a Consultant Radiologist (doctor) will perform the examination using gel to coat the breast and a probe to slide over the breast to create an image. The radiologist will be viewing this image on the TV screen immediately and will be able to answer any questions.

Does this procedure hurt?

No, this examination is totally non-invasive.

How long will it take?

A breast ultrasound usually take about 10 - 15 minutes but your whole visit to the Breast Assessment Unit should take about half an hour.

When will I get my results?

When you have had the examination, the

radiographer will tell you how and approximately when you will get the results but they are usually sent to the doctor who referred you to us within 48 hours.

Aftercare

There is no specific aftercare following this procedure.

HCA

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