Outstanding Care, Compassionate People, Healthier Communities

NHS Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

Transvaginal ultrasound examinations

Your doctor has arranged for you to have a transvaginal ultrasound examination.

This scan is not always required but you still need to prepare for the examination. The sonographer will advise you when you arrive for your appointment**.**

Please be aware the sonographer will be either male or female.

This leaflet will help you understand what your scan involves.

Why do I need a transvaginal ultrasound examination?
A transvaginal scan can often show better detail of the pelvis which will tell your doctor more about your symptoms. If you are under 16, have not had penetrative vaginal sex or have concerns about the procedure, it will not be carried out.

What is a transvaginal ultrasound examination?
The procedure is similar to an internal examination carried out in the clinic or GP surgery and allows us to see your pelvis in much greater detail. There is no special preparation for this test, and you do not need to bring anything to hospital with you.

How do I prepare for this examination?
It is essential to have a full bladder for the first part of this examination. Please ensure you drink 1½ pints one hour before your appointment.

If it is difficult for you to travel with a full bladder, please arrive early in the department and drink as much fluid as possible.

Please leave any valuables at home. You are responsible for all personal items you bring into hospital, and the Trust cannot accept responsibility for their loss or damage.

What will happen?
The sonographer or doctor will give a full explanation of what will happen.

You will be asked to give your permission before the examination is performed.

The sonographer will ask you to empty your bladder if the examination proceeds to a transvaginal examination as this will be more comfortable for you.

A disposable latex probe cover will be placed over the transvaginal ultrasound probe during the examination to maintain high levels of infection control. A latex free alternative can be used where needed. The entire ultrasound appointment will last approximately 15-20 minutes.

Please tell the sonographer if you have a latex allergy.

Is it painful?
The examination should be neither distressing nor painful and your privacy and dignity will be respected at all times.

What happens if my period is due?
If your appointment coincides with your menstrual period we can still perform the examination. It is quite normal for us to carry out transvaginal scans on women who are bleeding.

What happens after the transvaginal scan?
The results will be sent to the doctor who arranged the scan. At the end of the scan the sonographer will inform you how to get your results.

Once the scan is complete you can leave the hospital

Where can I get more information?
If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01623 672238 between 8.30am and 5pm.

Your radiology records
This Trust is part of a group of NHS hospitals in the East Midlands that have a shared NHS radiology system, which is used by our healthcare professionals to access your radiology records.

If necessary, your radiology records may also be accessed by healthcare professionals in other NHS hospitals in the East Midlands or NHS Service Providers, to ensure you receive consistent, safe and effective clinical care and treatment, irrespective of where you receive your care.

If you have any concerns about providing information or how we use it, please discuss this with radiology staff so that you fully understand the potential impact on your care or treatment.

Further sources of information
NHS Choices: www.nhs.uk/conditions
Our website: www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk

Patient Experience Team (PET)
PET is available to help with any of your compliments, concerns or complaints, and will ensure a prompt and efficient service.

King's Mill Hospital: 01623 672222
Newark Hospital: 01636 685692
Email: sfh-tr.PET@nhs.net

If you would like this information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call the Patient Experience Team on 01623 672222 or email sfh-tr.PET@nhs.net.

This document is intended for information purposes only and should not replace advice that your relevant health professional would give you.

External websites may be referred to in specific cases. Any external websites are provided for your information and convenience. We cannot accept responsibility for the information found on them.

If you require a full list of references for this leaflet, please email sfh-tr.patientinformation@nhs.net or telephone 01623 622515, extension 6927.

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