



Pediatric Abdomen

At Canberra Specialist Ultrasound we are passionate about delivering the very best ultrasound imaging service for the benefit of all our patients. We bring together a nationally and internationally renowned team of highly experienced doctors and medical imaging professionals from across the country into a caring and dedicated environment.

Introduction

Your doctor has referred your child to have an ultrasound of their abdomen. This examination is very common and will provide valuable information that will assist your doctor in managing your child's health.

Ultrasound uses high frequency sound waves to produce images without adverse side effects and free of radiation. Ultrasound is safe and non-invasive, it does not produce any discomfort for your child and you are encouraged to remain by their side, providing support and encouragement during the examination.

At Canberra Specialist Ultrasound we have staff with extensive pediatric imaging experience and we have invested in specialised probes providing state of the art pediatric imaging.

What happens during the scan?

You will be able to accompany your child at all times.

Your child will be asked to lie down on an ultrasound examination bed, the sonographer will discuss your child's clinical symptoms and relevant medical history with you. At Canberra Specialist Ultrasound we combine knowledge of your child's clinical history with our high quality imaging to maximise the diagnostic value of each

Preparation

The exact preparation depends on the age of the child.

The preparation consists of fasting from food and drink for a period of time prior to the examination.

With young babies less than 18 months of age feed times are quite close together! It is best to have the ultrasound just before a feed is due.

The strategy with older children is the same, however the fasting time will become longer as the age of the child increases. As a guide, 2 hours for older babies, 4 hours for toddlers and 6 hours for older children.

We are aware that fasting may be unsettling and appreciate that you have done the best you can.

It is a good idea to bring a fresh fruit treat, which can be enjoyed immediately after the scan. We can also offer a private area for breast feeding if required.

Please be mindful that on hot days children dehydrate very quickly and water should not be withheld.

If your child is diabetic or has any other special requirements please discuss this with our professional staff when you make the appointment.

examination. It is important that you communicate any areas of pain or concern to the sonographer so they can tailor the examination to your child's symptoms.

Warm gel is applied to the abdomen and a small hand held probe is moved over the abdomen to produce images.

We may roll your child into a variety of comfortable positions and use gentle pressure with the probe to obtain optimal images.

What about the results?

An Accredited Medical Sonographer conducts the ultrasound in close collaboration with a medical specialist Sonologist who will also produce the final report for your doctor.