



Upper 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 requested that you have an ultrasound of the soft tissue organs within your upper abdomen. This examination will provide valuable information that will assist your doctor in managing your medical condition.

Ultrasound uses high frequency sound waves to produce images without adverse side effects and free of radiation.

The upper abdomen examination is broad ranging and will examine the pancreas, liver, gall bladder, kidneys, spleen, major blood vessels and a variety of other structures.

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.

Preparation

To provide optimum imaging results, **an upper abdomen examination requires you to fast (i.e. no eating, drinking or smoking for at least six hours prior to the examination).**

If you are a diabetic or suffer epilepsy please discuss the timing of the scan with our bookings staff.

Any medication you normally take should be continued with a small amount of water as necessary.

What happens during the scan?

You will be asked to lie down on an ultrasound examination bed.

The sonographer will discuss your clinical symptoms and relevant medical history with you. At Canberra Specialist Ultrasound we combine knowledge of your clinical history with our high quality imaging to maximize the diagnostic value of each examination. It is important that you communicate any areas of pain or concern to the sonographer so they can tailor the examination to your symptoms.

Warm gel is applied to the abdomen and a small hand held probe is used to produce real time images of your internal organs.

Pressure will occasionally be applied with the probe and you may be asked to hold your breath while images are captured.

You may also be scanned in a variety of positions to produce optimum images.

An upper abdomen examination will take approximately 20 minutes, although the exact time may vary depending on the information being sought.