

**We strive to make your visit to the hospital as safe as possible. Please use the following measures to do your part for our patients:**

1. We are a scent free environment; refrain from wearing perfume, cologne or any scented products before arriving for your appointment or visiting patients.
2. Cover your cough! If you are experiencing respiratory symptoms, please request a mask from any of our registration areas and wear it while on the premises.
3. Hand washing protects us all from the spread of infectious diseases. There is hand cleansing gel available in all areas for your use.

**For your safety:**

You will be asked your name and date of birth for proper identification.

Following an interventional procedure you will be given a post procedure form to advise you of your care.

The transducers are disinfected after every exam.

We are all licensed and belong to Sonography Canada.

**For more information,  
contact:**

**Diagnostic Imaging Department**

Chatham-Kent Health Alliance  
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Wallaceburg, ON N8A 2A7  
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Hours: 7:30-5 Mon – Fri.

Originating Department: Diagnostic Imaging

Ce document est disponible en français



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**Patient Information**



**ULTRASOUND**

**DIAGNOSTIC  
IMAGING**

*Caring People Caring for People*

You will be instructed to arrive in admitting 30 minutes prior for registration

## ULTRASOUND

Ultrasound uses high frequency sound waves to produce echoes or pictures of your internal organs. A small amount of gel is applied to your body and then a transducer or "probe" is scanned over the part to be examined. Ultrasounds may be done on some areas that require no preparation. Depending on the body part being examined, you may be required to change into a medical gown for your test. The ultrasound exam will take @ 30 - 60 minutes or longer depending on the type of exam.

### Who Performs Your Examination

A Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer will perform the examination.

### Who Reports Your Examination

The Ultrasound images from your examination will be interpreted by the Radiologist (a physician specialist in Diagnostic Imaging). The results will then be forwarded to your family physician and/or consulting specialist. Your doctor should receive the results within a week.

### Abdominal Ultrasound

Do not eat or drink for 12 hours prior to your appointment.

### Interventional Ultrasound

Your doctor may request the Radiologist to perform an Ultrasound guided biopsy or drainage. Your doctor's office will provide you with instructions. You should discontinue aspirin or blood thinners (with your doctor's approval) 7 days prior to the biopsy procedure. You will be given a form following the procedure to advise you of your post procedure care.

### Obstetrical Ultrasound

An Obstetrical Ultrasound is a thorough examination to evaluate the well being of you and your baby. The exam includes the position of the baby, growth, anatomy, placenta and cervix. You will be asked to finish drinking 32 oz. of fluids one hour before your appointment. Arrive in the Ultrasound department with a full bladder. Do not empty.

### Pelvic Ultrasound

Finish drinking 40 oz. of fluid 1 hour prior to your appointment. If you are over the age of 50 years, or have had a complete hysterectomy, finish drinking fluids 90 minutes prior to your exam. Arrive in the Ultrasound department with a full bladder. Do not empty. After this portion of the exam

is performed you will be requested to empty your bladder. A special probe then will be used internally for the sonographer to have a closer look at your uterus and ovaries. This is an informed decision made by you.

### Renal (Kidney) Ultrasound

Eat and drink normally. Finish drinking 16 oz of fluids one hour prior to your appointment. Do not void.

### Doppler Study

- Upper Extremity
- Lower Extremity
- Carotid

A Doppler study is an Ultrasound to check arteries or veins in your arm, leg or neck. If you are having a lower extremity arterial doppler, the blood pressure in your arms and legs will also be measured. There is no preparation for this examination.

### Echocardiogram

An Echocardiogram is an Ultrasound study of your heart. There is no preparation for this examination.