

Transvaginal Ultrasound Consumer Information

Royal Hospital for Women

October 2016

Why do I need to sign a consent form for a transvaginal ultrasound?

We are now required by the Diagnostic Imaging Accreditation Scheme (DIAS) to have consent forms for all transvaginal ultrasounds. You will be asked to sign the consent on the reverse side of this information sheet when you arrive for your appointment or prior to the examination beginning. You have the right of refusal and may choose not to have the transvaginal examination and/or you may withdraw your consent at any time.

Please read the following consumer information sheet which may address any queries you have. Please ask the reception staff or sonographer should you have any other questions

What is a transvaginal ultrasound?

Transabdominal and transvaginal ultrasound are techniques to image the female pelvic organs. Transabdominal ultrasounds use a full bladder and contact with the skin of the abdomen, while transvaginal uses an internal approach. It helps to see the structure of your uterus, cervix and ovaries.

It is used as part of a pelvic ultrasound requested by your doctor and may also aid in visualising various structures throughout the different stages of a pregnancy.

How do I prepare for a transvaginal ultrasound?

There is no preparation for a transvaginal scan. You will be asked to empty your bladder prior to the scan.

What happens during a transvaginal scan?

After you have emptied your bladder, you will be asked to change into a gown. You then lie on a bed and bend your legs similar to when you are having a Pap smear. The specially designed transducer is inserted into the vagina, much like a tampon. The transducer is covered by a specific designed cover and sterile gel is applied for ease of insertion. You may insert the transducer yourself if you prefer. The transducer will need to be moved around to get the required imaging; however, it should not hurt. It may feel a little like when you have a Pap smear, or when your doctor does an internal examination. No speculum is used.

Are there any after effects of a transvaginal ultrasound?

There are no after effects of a transvaginal ultrasound. You may resume your normal activities.

What are the benefits of a transvaginal ultrasound?

The placement of the transducer allows close proximity to the pelvic organs and very clear imaging of those structures. This will aid your doctor in better management of your presenting condition.

What are the risks of a transvaginal ultrasound?

There are no known risks of performing transvaginal ultrasound. It is a technique that uses sound waves and no radiation is involved.

The transducer is thoroughly cleaned between each patient according to department policies and procedures.

Who would not have a transvaginal ultrasound?

Although there are no known risks or adverse effects of transvaginal ultrasound, it is not indicated in a select group of people – minors or those not sexually active, and pregnancies with leaking amniotic fluid.

Please turn over and either sign your consent for the transvaginal scan or that you choose not to have the transvaginal scan.

Royal Hospital for Women

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Affix Patient Sticker Here

Consent Form for Transvaginal ultrasound

/

(Print name)

understand the above provided information and consent to a transvaginal ultrasound.

.....Patient's signature / /

OR

I.....

.....
(Print name)

understand the above provided information and choose not to have the transvaginal ultrasound

..... Patient's signature / /

.....Sonographer's signature / /