



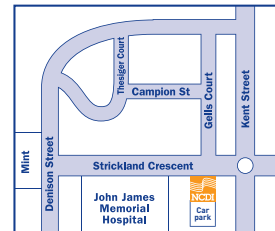
### HOW LONG WILL THE EXAMINATION TAKE AND WHERE DO THE RESULTS GO?

Most ultrasound appointments are for up to 30 minutes, although some complex studies may require longer. Sometimes the radiologist may come to view the screen, however this is quite routine and should not cause alarm. The images are then interpreted by the radiologist and the results will then be forwarded to your referring doctor.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact our practices.

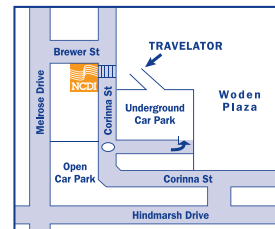


**Pelvic Ultrasounds are performed at all NCDI sites:**



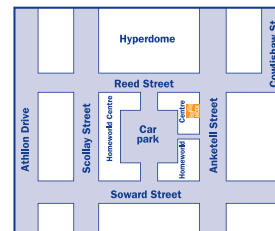
#### CANBERRA SPECIALIST CENTRE

161 Strickland Crescent,  
Deakin ACT 2600  
Ph: 6124 1900



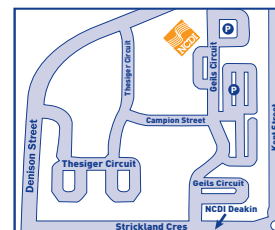
#### CORINNA CHAMBERS

36-38 Corinna Street,  
Woden ACT 2606  
Ph: 6214 2222



#### TUGGERANONG

Suite 10a, Homeworld Centre  
Anketell Street,  
Tuggeranong ACT 2900  
Ph: 6293 2922



#### GEILS COURT

39 Geils Court,  
Deakin ACT 2600  
Ph: 6122 7878

**Please bring your referral and any previous x-rays with you on the day of your examination.**

# FEMALE & PELVIC ULTRASOUND



A Pelvic Ultrasound provides images of the structures and organs in the lower abdomen or pelvis

# WHAT IS A PELVIC ULTRASOUND?

**Ultrasound** uses high frequency sound waves (much higher than human ears can hear) which are produced by the ultrasound probe (transducer). The reflected sound waves are detected by the probe and used to create an image which is displayed on the screen of the ultrasound machine. There are no known harmful effects.

Your doctor has requested that you have an ultrasound examination, this may be performed either via the abdomen (transabdominal), or via the vagina (transvaginal).

## WHO WILL PERFORM THE SCAN?

Your examination (scan) will be performed by a sonographer, who is a specially trained technologist. The ultrasound is performed to obtain information that will assist your doctor in managing your health. The sonographer requires a high level of concentration to ensure an accurate assessment is achieved. For this reason, under most circumstances, family and friends of the patient are not permitted to watch non-obstetric ultrasound scans. You will need to either leave children in the care of a babysitter or bring a babysitter to supervise them in the waiting room, as children must not be left unsupervised in the waiting room.

## PREPARATION

2 hours before the appointment, drink 600mls of water.

Do not empty bladder.



Ultrasound involves exposing part of the body to high-frequency sound waves to produce pictures of the inside of the body.

## PROCEDURE

A clear gel is applied to the area to be examined. The ultrasound probe is then placed in contact with the skin and moved over the surface to study the tissues below. When the still pictures are taken you may be asked to hold your breath for a few seconds. The scan is completely painless, although pressure may be applied to improve the view in some areas. Please tell the sonographer should this become uncomfortable.

In some female pelvic scans, we may suggest using a transvaginal probe to get a closer view of the pelvic organs. The transvaginal scan is performed with an empty bladder, and as a result many patients find it more comfortable. The small sterilised probe about the same

diameter as a thumb, is lubricated with gel before insertion into the vagina. A protective cover (a condom) is placed over the transducer each time it is used, so there is no risk of infection. We offer a transvaginal study if it may be of benefit, but it is your decision. If you have an objection to transvaginal ultrasound being performed please inform the sonographer.

