

## NHS Community Ultrasound Service Patient Information Leaflet

### The GP Care Ultrasound Service

Your GP has referred you to the GP Care Ultrasound Service. This service is delivered on behalf of the NHS by GP Care who have a team of experienced Sonographers and Consultant Radiologists, all accredited with the Health and Care Professions Council and the General Medical Council.

Ultrasound is a painless, method of imaging internal organs including the uterus, ovaries, liver, kidneys, gall bladder, pancreas, spleen and aorta. The appointment will last up to 30 minutes and the sonographer will fully explain the procedure to you. You are welcome to bring a friend or relative with you to your appointment. This support may be useful because it will mean someone else has taken in the information about your scan.

### Preparing for your scan

Depending on what area is to be scanned, such as leg or stomach, it is best to wear clothes that allow the area to be easily accessed. Please be prepared to remove outer clothing and wear suitable underwear. Some scans require you to prepare in advance e.g. fasting. It is therefore important that you please read the preparation instructions on your letter carefully before attending your appointment. Please arrive promptly for your appointment time, you will be collected from the waiting area at your allocated time.

### What happens at your appointment?

You will see either a female or male Sonographer who will be supported by a female or male Healthcare Assistant who will also act as a Chaperone. Please discuss any concerns you have with the Sonographer.

You will be asked to lie on an examination couch and uncover the area for examination. A water-based gel will be applied to your skin and the ultrasound probe will be moved over your skin. For female patients there are some circumstances where it may be necessary for our sonographers to perform a trans-vaginal ultrasound scan. This scan is not painful and will give us much better images to aid in a diagnosis. Please advise the Sonographer if you have a known latex allergy.

The Sonographer will review the images and compile a report which will be sent to your GP within 5 working days of your appointment.

### Feedback

Your opinions on the service are welcome. You may be asked to complete a questionnaire once the treatment is complete. We believe in setting very high standards and welcome your comments on this service. You may also rate our service on survey monkey after your appointment <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GPCAREUK>

Do you have a communication or information support need? If so please telephone 0333 332 2100 or email [imaging.gpcare@nhs.net](mailto:imaging.gpcare@nhs.net) so that those needs can be recorded and responded to.