



Patient Information Leaflet

# Having a Transvaginal Pelvic Ultrasound Scan

**Produced by:**  
Diagnostic Imaging

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**If you are unable to read this leaflet because English is not your first language, please ask someone who speaks English to telephone PALS on 01983 534850 for further information and help.**

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**Polish:**

Jeśli nie jesteś w stanie przeczytać tej ulotki bo angielski nie jest pierwszym językiem, poproś kogoś, kto mówi po angielsku, o kontakt telefoniczny z (PALS 01983 534850) aby uzyskać więcej informacji i pomoc

**Russian:**

Если вы не можете прочитать этот буклет на английском языке потому что не является первым языке, пожалуйста, попросите кого-нибудь, кто говорит на английском языке для телефонного (PALS 01983 534850) для получения дополнительной информации и помощи

**Turkish:**

Eğer İngilizce ana diliniz değilse, çünkü bu broşürü okumak için yapamıyorsanız, daha fazla bilgi için 01983 534850 üzerinde PALS telefon İngilizce bilen birine sormak ve yardım lütfen

**Bulgarian:**

Ако не сте в състояние да прочетете тази листовка, тъй като английският не е първи език, опитайте някой, който говори английски, за да телефонирам (PALS на 01983 534850) за повече информация и помощ

**Czech:**

Pokud nejste schopni přečíst tuto příbalovou informaci, protože angličtina není vaším rodným jazykem, zeptejte se někoho, kdo mluví anglicky na telefonní PALS na 01983 534850 pro další informace a pomoc

**Bengali:**

আপনি ইংরেজি আপনার প্রথম ভাষা না থাকার কারণে এই লফিলটে পড়তে অক্ষম হন, তাহলে আরও তথ্যের জন্য 01983 534850 নভেগিশেন PALS টলেফি এন ইংরেজি কথা কটে জিজ্ঞাসা করুন এবং সাহায্য করুন

The following information may be of use to you before you attend your appointment. Please take a few minutes to read through it.

### **What is a pelvic ultrasound examination?**

An ultrasound examination obtains a picture of the inside of the body without the use of x-rays. It is a very safe technique using high frequency sound waves, which are transmitted through a part of the body and reflected by the internal organs and structures. These 'echoes' form a picture on a television screen, which can be analysed.

### **What is a transvaginal scan?**

You will be taken into a slightly darkened examination room and made comfortable on a couch. In order to perform this scan it is necessary to gently insert the tip of an ultrasound probe into the vagina. This is a simple and usually painless procedure. The probe is a little bigger than the size of a finger or a tampon, and produces pictures on a TV screen. You will not be asked to have this test if you have never had a vaginal (internal) examination. The examination can be performed at any time of a woman's life – in pregnancy, during menstruation or after the menopause. If you have any anxiety about the procedure, please discuss this with the staff performing the examination.

During a vaginal scan the probe is close to the pelvic organs, so it is possible to get a clearer view and much greater detail can be obtained. A hand may be placed on the lower abdomen to push the pelvic structures nearer the probe so they can be seen more easily on screen. The time taken to perform the procedure varies from 2 to 10 minutes.

It would be beneficial for you to bathe or shower before you come in for your scan. You do NOT need a full bladder for this scan.

### **Are there any risks involved?**

No, there are no known risks and it is considered to be very safe.

If you are having the ultrasound as an outpatient you will be able to return home immediately, providing that no other tests are required. You may eat, drink and resume normal activities (including sexual intercourse) as soon as you wish. There are catering facilities available in the hospital in the main foyer coffee shop as well as the Full Circle Restaurant that is located on level B. Our staff will be pleased to direct you to any of these facilities once your scan is complete.

Sometimes, the person performing the examination will be able to tell you the results, but in most cases a report will be sent to the doctor who recommended you to have the test.

At your next GP/outpatient appointment, you will be able to discuss the results and any subsequent treatment, which may be necessary.

**If you cannot keep your appointment for any reason, please let us know as soon as possible. This helps us to arrange another scan for you with the minimum delay and to keep our waiting lists as short as possible. Our telephone number is shown on your appointment letter.**

### **Access to Health Records by Diagnostic Staff**

As a patient undergoing tests as part of a diagnostic procedure information about you may be accessed by other healthcare professionals, and images may need to be interpreted by a teleradiology service. It is normal practice in these circumstances for your consent to be implied as part of your agreement to have the test or tests performed.

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**If you have any queries or concerns about the content of this leaflet please call (01983) 524081 and ask to speak to the relevant department.**

If you require this leaflet in another language, large print or another format, please contact the PALS Team, telephone **01983 534850**, who will advise you.

Valuables should not be brought into the hospital. If patients have to bring in valuable items they should ask a nurse to store them safely and request a receipt for the items. You may not be able to have the valuable items returned if the time of discharge from hospital is out of hours.

We are sorry but the Trust cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to items not given for safe keeping.

You can get further information on all sorts of health issues online at: **www.nhs.uk**

For Health advice and out of hours GP service please call the NHS 111 service on: **111**

### **We Value Your Views On Our Service**

If you wish to comment on the care which you, your relative or friend has received, we will be pleased to hear from you. Please speak to the person in charge of the ward, clinic or service in the first instance or ask them to contact the PALS Team. If you wish to contact them directly, telephone on **01983 534850**.

Alternatively you may prefer to write to:

Chief Executive  
Isle Of Wight NHS Trust  
St Mary's Hospital  
Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5TG

You can also share any concerns you have about our services with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on **03000 61 61 61** or at **enquiries@cqc.org.uk**

All NHS sites are no smoking areas.

If you would like help and advice to stop smoking please call: Freephone 0800 169 0 169 to talk to the NHS Smoking Helpline.