

Ultrasound – Obstetric Scan

Ultrasound scans for pregnancy are performed in the Ante Natal clinic in the Women & Children's Hospital and are by Appointment Only.

All pregnant women are routinely offered 2 scans during their pregnancy:

The first scan, the **Booking or Dating scan**, is performed at your first hospital appointment when you are between 12- 13 weeks pregnant. This examination takes about 15 minutes and will tell you how many weeks pregnant you are, how many babies there are and when your baby is due.

You will need to have a **Full Bladder** for this scan, so please drink 1 pint of water an hour before your appointment

One Adult can be with you during the scan, as can children, but the sonographer must be allowed to concentrate and we ask that you remain quiet during the scan. The sonographer will be happy to answer any questions at the end of the examination

The second scan is performed at 20 weeks, the **Anomaly scan** and involves a detailed examination of your baby's anatomy to check that your baby is developing properly. This examination takes between 20 – 30 minutes and the sonographer will be looking at the baby's head, abdomen, spine, chest and limbs and will take measurements to ensure that your baby is the correct size.

Most babies develop properly, however some scans will show that the baby is not developing as it should. If this scan indicates that your baby has an abnormality then you will be referred to a consultant obstetrician (a doctor who specialises in pregnancy), who may wish to carry out further scans.

Please be aware that not all abnormalities will be picked up during this scan.

One Adult can be with you during the scan, as can any children, but the sonographer must be allowed to concentrate and we ask that you remain quiet during the scan. The sonographer will be happy to answer any questions at the end of the examination, and if you wish to find out the sex of your baby, please ask. It is not always possible to see the sex of the baby, and repeat scans for this are not performed.

A full bladder is not required for this examination.

For more information about these scans please refer to:

fetalanomaly.screening.nhs.uk/leafletsforparents

For medico-legal purposes, taking pictures or videos on your mobile phones or tablets is **not allowed** . However, it is possible to purchase scan pictures of your baby, but the quality cannot be guaranteed.

Any other scans, for example, to check that your baby is growing properly, will be carried out at the request of your obstetrician.