

# Ultrasound Scan of Your Upper Abdomen

**Ultrasound Department  
Clinical Support Services  
Directorate of Operations**

**This leaflet has been designed to give you important information about your condition / procedure, and to answer some common queries that you may have.**



# Information for patients and visitors

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## Introduction

Medical ultrasound imaging uses sound waves which we cannot hear to produce a television image of the structures within the body. In order to obtain these images a thin layer gel is applied to your abdomen. The Ultrasonographer places a probe on your skin over the part of your body to be examined. On completion of the examination, the skin is wiped clean.

## Please Read the Following Instructions Carefully:

It is very important that you do not eat or drink anything for 6 hours prior to your appointment. Failure to follow the above fasting guidance may result in your appointment being cancelled.

## Your Questions Answered:

### How long does it take?

Once you are in the room the examination will take 10-15 minutes. On completion, you will be able to eat and drink as normal.

### What happens if I am on medication?

Please continue to use any medication prescribed for you.

If you are diabetic, please telephone the department and speak to a member of staff so that you can be given an early morning appointment.

Please bring your insulin and some food with you, to be taken as soon as the examination is complete.

### When will I get the results?

The results of your ultrasound scan will be sent to the doctor who referred you. If this was your GP it will usually be within a week.

## How can you help us?

If you are unable to attend for whatever reason, please inform the department so that your appointment can be offered to another patient.

If you are admitted into hospital please inform the ward staff of this appointment.

## Additional Information:

If you have any concerns regarding the procedure, or queries regarding appointments, please contact the Ultrasound Department at the relevant hospital:

Scunthorpe: 01724 290194 (Option 2)

Grimsby: 01472 875495

Goole: 01724 290018

## Concerns and Queries

If you have any concerns / queries about any of the services offered by the Trust, in the first instance, please speak to the person providing your care.

### For Diana, Princess of Wales Hospital

Alternatively you can contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on (01472) 875403 or at the PALS office which is situated near the main entrance.

### For Scunthorpe General Hospital

Alternatively you can contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on (01724) 290132 or at the PALS office which is situated on C Floor.

Alternatively you can email:  
[nlg-tr.PALS@nhs.net](mailto:nlg-tr.PALS@nhs.net)

## Confidentiality

Information on NHS patients is collected in a variety of ways and for a variety of reasons



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## Information for patients and visitors

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(e.g. providing care and treatment, managing and planning the NHS, training and educating staff, research etc.).

Everyone working for the NHS has a legal duty to keep information about you confidential. Information will only ever be shared with people who have a genuine need for it (e.g. your GP or other professionals from whom you have been receiving care) or if the law requires it, for example, to notify a birth.

Please be assured however that anyone who receives information from us is also under a legal duty to keep it confidential.

### **Zero Tolerance - Violent, Threatening and Abusive Behaviour**

The Trust and its staff are committed to providing high quality care to patients within the department. However, we wish to advise all patients / visitors that the following inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated:

- Swearing
- Threatening / abusive behaviour
- Verbal / physical abuse

The Trust reserves the right to withdraw from treating patients whom are threatening / abusive / violent and ensuring the removal of those persons from the premises.

All acts of criminal violence and aggression will be notified to the Police immediately.

### **Risk Management Strategy**

The Trust welcomes comments and suggestions from patients and visitors that could help to reduce risk.

Perhaps you have experienced something whilst in hospital, whilst attending as an outpatient or as a visitor and you felt at risk.

Please tell a member of staff on the ward or in the department you are attending / visiting.

### **Moving & Handling**

The Trust operates a Minimal Lifting Policy, which in essence means patients are only ever lifted by staff in an emergency situation.

Patients are always encouraged to help themselves as much as possible when mobilising, and if unable to do so, equipment may be used to assist in their safe transfer.

If you have any questions regarding moving and handling of patients within the Trust, please speak to a member of staff in the ward or department you are visiting.

### **Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust**

**Diana Princess of Wales Hospital**  
**Scarcho Road**  
**Grimsby**  
**01472 874111**

**Scunthorpe General Hospital**  
**Cliff Gardens**  
**Scunthorpe**  
**01724 282282**

**Goole & District Hospital**  
**Woodland Avenue**  
**Goole**  
**01405 720720**

[www.nlg.nhs.uk](http://www.nlg.nhs.uk)

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