

# Obstetric ultrasound scan

## Information for patients

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Your doctor/midwife has asked you to attend for an ultrasound scan to check the position of the placenta/length of your cervix.

**One adult** can accompany you into the scan room.

We ask that you **do not bring any children to this appointment. Children will not be allowed in the scan room during the examination** and there are no crèche facilities available.

### What do I need to do before my ultrasound scan appointment?

You **must** have a full bladder for this scan. Please **drink 1 pint of water one hour before your appointment.**

**Do not** go to the toilet until after your scan.

Please also remember to bring your pregnancy notes with you to the appointment.

Sometimes, even with a full bladder, it is not possible to see the placenta/cervix clearly. You may be offered a trans-vaginal examination (internal examination) in this case.

When you come to your appointment, wear simple clothing with as few fastenings as possible. Please also bring your appointment letter. Do not bring any valuables with you.

Keep taking any medications you are on.

### What is a trans-vaginal examination?

This examination is performed when your bladder is empty. A special scan probe is inserted into the vagina. It is similar to an internal examination carried out in the clinic or GP surgery. Your baby is not at risk with this examination.

### What should I do when I get to the X-Ray Department?

When you arrive, go to the reception desk and give your name or show your appointment letter. Someone will call your name when they are ready to see you.

### How long will my appointment take?

You should allow 30 minutes for your appointment.

Be aware, if you are late for your appointment, or you do not have a full bladder, you may not be seen and it may not be possible to rebook your appointment for another date. If the appointment does not suit, please let us know as soon as possible.

Please bring your pregnancy notes and be aware that these scans are performed in many locations and your appointment may not be in the same place as previous scans.

### When will I get the results of my scan?

The report will be placed in your pregnancy notes after the scan.

## Getting to your appointment

Details of which site your appointment will be at will be on your appointment letter.

You can find information about how to get to all of our sites at:

<https://www.nhslothian.scot/GoingToHospital/Locations/Pages/default.aspx>

## Further information

For further information, please read *Ultrasound scans in pregnancy*.

## Keeping your appointment

If you cannot keep your appointment, or have been given one that is unsuitable, please change it by phoning **0131 536 6409** or **0131 536 6410**. Your call will give someone else the chance to be seen and will help us keep waiting times to a minimum.

## Public transport and travel information

### Bus details are available from:

Lothian Buses on 0131 555 6363 or [www.lothianbuses.co.uk](http://www.lothianbuses.co.uk)

Traveline Scotland on 08712 002 233 or [www.travelinescotland.com](http://www.travelinescotland.com)

### Train details are available from:

National Rail Enquiries on 03457 484 950 or [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

## Patient transport

Patient Transport will only be made available if you have a medical or clinical need. Telephone **0300 123 1236** (calls charged at local rate) up to 28 days in advance to book, making sure you have your CHI Number available.

A text relay service is available if you are hard of hearing or speech impaired. They can be contacted on: **18001-0300 123 1236** (calls charged at local rate).

To cancel patient transport, you should telephone 0800 389 1333 (Freephone 24 hour answer service).

## Interpretation and translation

Your GP will inform us of any interpreting requirements you have before you come to hospital and we will provide an appropriate interpreter. If you are having this procedure as an existing inpatient, staff will arrange interpreting support for you before your procedure.

This leaflet may be made available in a larger print, Braille or your community language.