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PATIENT INFORMATION REGARDING

GYN & EARLY OB DIAGNOSTIC ULTRASOUNDS

One of the most exciting tools for medical diagnosis is ultrasound. This is a painless technique which provides pictures of the fetus for early OB's and pelvic structures for GYN patients. All ultrasounds are done for medical reasons and; therefore, we take great pride and effort in doing a thorough and complete examination.

Your examination will be done using a vaginal transducer. The test is performed with you in the same position as if you were having a pelvic/pap exam by your physician. The transducer is a smooth, round, small probe (no bigger than the normal vaginal speculum) which is inserted into the vagina to create the image. This procedure usually takes 15-20 minutes. Normally, you should not experience pain during the procedure. Sometimes, when examining the ovaries, a minimal amount of discomfort is felt. Not everyone has pain with the exam of the ovaries. If you experience any pain, relate this to the sonographer or physician.

The procedure in the ultrasound examination will be as follows:

GYN patients:

Please arrive on time for your ultrasound. You do not need a full bladder for a vaginal scan. Sometimes after a vaginal scan, it may be determined that an abdominal scan is also needed. We may require you to remain in the office and wait for your bladder to fill. You may be scheduled for an ultrasound during your period. This is not a problem in performing a scan.

The exam will be performed by the sonographer and then she will explain to you what has been seen. If Dr. Korman is present, he will scan you and give a report to your doctor who will then discuss it with you then or at a later date depending on their schedule.

OB patients:

You may have one significant other person in the room at the same time to observe the scan. Children under the age of 12 are not allowed. Children often do not have the patience required to remain still during an exam. Please arrive on time for your scan. You do not need a full bladder for your OB scan if you are under 14 weeks gestation by last menstrual period.

A normal ultrasound is very reassuring that your baby will most probably be healthy; however, a normal ultrasound does not guarantee that your baby will be perfect. Due to limitations of the pregnancy, the patient's size, fetal age, etc., and due to limitations of ultrasound some abnormalities cannot be detected.

Generally our registered diagnostic medical sonographer, Susan Morgan, will perform the scan. The scan is videotaped and then reviewed by Dr. Korman. Dr. Korman will personally perform the scan again if an abnormality is suspected or found at the time of the initial ultrasound.

Dr. Korman, who reviews all ultrasounds, is responsible for the performance and interpretation of the ultrasound as a medical test. He will then discuss the ultrasound with your doctor. The final interpretation and application of the ultrasound to your particular clinical situation is made by your doctor. The ultrasound is only a test and as such is only useful when applied to your situation.

One final note: The scheduled times for scans are subject to unexpected change. Given the nature of our specialty, unexpected events can occur suddenly. We have only your best interest at heart and wish to perform the most complete ultrasound in the best, uninterrupted fashion possible.

The scan is digitally stored and reviewed by Dr. Korman.

File: obgynus

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