



Ultrasound

Our Mission

Nicklaus Children's Hospital's mission is to inspire hope and promote lifelong health by providing the best care to every child. We focus on family-centered care in order to provide an optimal experience for patients and their families. We believe that parents and guardians play a vital role in the success of this test and want you to have an active role in your child's healthcare. The following information is to help prepare both you and your child for the scheduled exam.

What is an Ultrasound?

- An ultrasound is a large camera that helps doctors understand more about the tissues and organs inside the body. These painless exams help doctors see images in further detail.
- A special wand covered in a jelly-like substance is often used to help the wand slide across the skin. Some children say the jelly feels cold.
- Ultrasounds may take anywhere from 15 to 40 minutes, depending on how well the child cooperates.

What to Expect During the Procedure

Step 1: Getting Ready

- You and your child will be walked from the waiting room to the ultrasound room where you will see a computer on wheels and an exam bed.
- Your child may be asked to change into a hospital gown and lie on the "picture bed" for the ultrasound.

Step 2: Taking Pictures

- The technologist will put a jelly-like substance on the ultrasound wand part to begin to take the pictures.
- The technologist will place the wand on the body part being examined.
- As mentioned above, remind your child that the ultrasound does not hurt and the jelly is cold. The wand might even tickle.

Step 3: Results

Your doctor will contact you in about 48 to 72 business hours.

Child Life Specialists

A part of the Child Life Specialist's role in the Radiology Department is to help children and families cope with the anxiety and fear associated with medical procedures. A Child Life Specialist may be available on the day of the exam to provide education and coping strategies. For more information, please contact Nicklaus Children's Hospital's Children's Experiences Department at 305-666-6511 extension 4875 and select #1.