

## Ultrasound – Pregnancy (OB)

To Schedule: (319) 861-7778

Questions about your procedure: (319) 398-6050



701 10th Street SE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403-1292  
319 398-6011

### What is an OB Ultrasound?

An OB ultrasound scan is a medical test that uses high frequency sound waves to produce images of structures within your body. The most common reasons for having an OB ultrasound exam are to determine the approximate age and position of the baby and to make sure the baby is growing normally.

Age can be determined early in the pregnancy by measuring the length of the baby. Later, age is determined by measurements of the head and femur, the long bone inside the thigh.

Measurements of the abdominal and head circumference are also determined.

### Preparation:

You will need to drink 32 ounces of water 1 hour prior to the scheduled exam time. You will then need to hold your bladder until after the ultrasound exam has begun. This ultrasound exam takes between 20 minutes to 60 minutes depending on how far along you are in your pregnancy. If your bladder is not full, you may need to drink more fluid and the exam could take longer.

### Procedure:

You will be asked to lie on a bed or stretcher. Prior to beginning the examination, a technologist will ask you to move or remove clothing in the area to be imaged. For your privacy, only the area to be imaged will be uncovered. A warm gel will be placed on your skin. The technologist will use a hand-held instrument (called a transducer) against your skin to acquire images. Early in pregnancy, it may be necessary to scan with a special transducer placed in the vagina to see the baby.

### PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:

**A PHOTO ID TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY**

### Parking:

#### Mercy Hospital:

Park in the Mercy Medical Center 10<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. Proceed to **Ground (G)** level and follow the signs to “Radiology (X-Ray),” also located on **Ground (G)** level.

#### Mercy Imaging Center - Hiawatha:

Located at 1195 Boysen Rd. in Hiawatha. This location is particularly convenient for patients coming from the north side of Cedar Rapids, Marion, or Hiawatha. Park directly outside the “Imaging” door along N. 12<sup>th</sup> Ave.

**Results:**

A radiologist will review the images shortly after the exam is completed. A written report will be sent to the provider who ordered your exam. Your provider will discuss the results with you. Results will typically be available for your provider within two business days of the exam. Results will also be sent to your MyChart account.