

## Ultrasound – Amniocentesis

To Schedule: (319) 861-7778

Questions about your procedure: (319) 398-6050



### What is an Ultrasound?

An ultrasound scan is a medical test that uses high frequency sound waves to produce images of structures within your body. The images can provide valuable information for diagnosing and treating a variety of diseases and conditions.

### Preparation:

You will be asked to check in at the Mercy Birthplace 1 hour prior to your exam time for a non-stress test and Birthplace staff will escort you to the ultrasound suite for the ultrasound procedure.

### 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. The ultrasound exam will take between 30 and 60 minutes, depending on the type of exam ordered.

Ultrasound is used to evaluate the pockets of amniotic fluid around the baby so your doctor is able to safely remove the fluid to test your baby's lung maturity. Direct visualization of the needle keeps the baby safe during the procedure.

**PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:  
A PHOTO ID TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY**

### Mercy Hospital Parking:

Park at the south end of Level 3 of the ramp at 8th Street & 8th Avenue, Cedar Rapids.

### 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.