

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY PERINATAL CONSULTANTS
OB ULTRASOUND EXAMINATION CONSENT FORM

Ultrasound is a technique to make images of the baby in the uterus (womb) by using sound waves. The ultrasound begins by placing gel over your abdomen to help the technician get a picture of the baby. Then a transducer (or scanning device) is moved lightly over your abdomen making sound waves that pass through the abdomen and uterus. These sound waves bounce off of the developing baby and are sent back to the transducer. The information that comes back to the transducer is used to generate pictures of the baby, the uterus and other nearby structures. These pictures can then be seen on a monitor. Most ultrasound pictures are obtained by moving the transducer over the mother's abdomen; however, sometimes these pictures need to be obtained with a special transducer that is inserted into the vagina. This is similar to having a pelvic examination and some mild discomfort may be experienced.

An obstetrical ultrasound is not a treatment for any condition, but is performed only for diagnostic purposes. During pregnancy, information obtained can be used to evaluate the baby's growth, confirm the presence of a fetal heart beat, detect the presence of multiple babies and detect some, but not all, birth defects.

It is possible that fetal birth defects which are present may not be seen or may be falsely reported during an obstetrical ultrasound examination. A sonogram's accuracy in detecting abnormalities depends on the fetal gestational age, fetal position, and on the mother's weight. Neither a normal ultrasound exam, nor the results of any other prenatal test, guarantees a normal, healthy baby.

Currently there are no known risks to the mother or baby during an ultrasound examination. No adverse fetal effects of diagnostic obstetric ultrasound have been demonstrated in humans after decades of clinical use.

I acknowledge that I understand the ultrasound procedure and its purpose.

I understand that the practice of medicine is not an exact science, that it involves the making of medical judgments based upon the facts known to the physician at the time, and that it is not reasonable to expect the physician to be able to anticipate nor explain all of the risks and complications, and further, that an undesirable result does not necessarily indicate an error in judgment and that no guarantee as to results has been made nor relied upon by me.

I have read the above information and I consent to an obstetric ultrasound examination.

Signature of the patient (or guardian)

Date

Relationship to the patient