



# Patient Information

## **Urogynaecology Department**

### Endoanal Ultrasound and Manometry



## **What is an endoanal ultrasound?**

This is a scan that looks at the anal sphincter which forms part of the back passage by your rectum/anus - both the internal and external parts of the sphincter are checked together. The scan is to check for any signs of weakness or damage to the muscles.

## **Why am I having this scan?**

The sphincter helps to control wind (flatus) and poo (stool), if you are having difficulty controlling these functions your consultant may have recommended this scan. The sphincter may have been damaged during childbirth and symptoms may deteriorate at any stage during life, but especially with increased exercise and during the menopause. Your clinician will also discuss with you whether anal manometry tests are appropriate. These test the activity and strength of the same group of muscles and sphincter.

## **Risks**

There are no known risks with this scan.

## **Will these procedures be uncomfortable?**

No, there may be some slight discomfort, however, please ensure you tell your clinician if there is any pain during the procedure. You are unlikely to need any analgesia before or after the scan (eg paracetamol). Your clinician will explain the procedure before they start to ensure you understand the process.

## **Before the scan**

It would be helpful and more comfortable if you could pass urine (wee) and empty your bowels (poo) before you arrive to have your scan. Toilets are available in the department if needed.

## **During the scan**

On arrival at your appointment your clinician will discuss your bowel symptoms and bowel habits.

They will explain the ultrasound scan procedure before asking you to remove your clothes from the waist down. You will be given a cover sheet to cover you from the waist down during the procedure to ensure dignity is preserved.

A small tube (probe) will be inserted into your back passage. This is attached to a small laptop and machine. The clinician will spend a few minutes taking images of the area which will be used for a report for your management.

The ultrasound is likely to take no more than 5 minutes.

## Anal Manometry tests

If you are also having anal manometry performed – a similar sized small probe will be inserted into your back passage, this will then be filled with air. It is really helpful if you try to remain relaxed during the test. Your clinician will ask you to let them know when you can feel different sensations of bowel urgency. They may also ask you to cough to check the response of the muscles.

It is likely that this part of the test will also take no more than 5 minutes.

## After the scan

You will be free to go home after the tests are done and it should not stop you from continuing your normal routine. The clinician may be able to discuss the results during the appointment regarding any further investigations or management you may need. If this is not possible, you will be sent an appointment to discuss them at a later date.

## Contact

If you have any further question you would like to ask before your scan, please contact the Urogynaecology department on 01908 997119.

We are not always able to answer the telephone during the day, but please do leave a message on our answerphone and we will contact you as soon as possible.

We ask for information about you so that you can receive proper care and treatment. This information remains confidential and is stored securely by the Trust in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Act 2018/GDPR. Further guidance can be found within our privacy notice found on our Trust website: [www.mkuh.nhs.uk](http://www.mkuh.nhs.uk)

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