

Will I feel any pain?

You cannot feel Ultrasound waves. However, it is important for the Sonographer/ Radiologist to examine you in the correct position and gently press down the probe to get a good image. For some people, this may feel a little uncomfortable. Please inform the Sonographer/ Radiologist if you feel discomfort and they may be able to adjust to an alternative position. You should not feel pain.

What happens after the scan?

If you are having the examination as an outpatient, you can leave the department and continue your day as normal after the scan. You may eat, drink and continue normal activities as soon as you wish.

The results of your scan will not be available immediately. The images will be reviewed by a Radiologist and a report will be completed.

If you have been referred by your GP, the results will be sent to the GP within 10 days. If you have been referred by a hospital consultant, you will receive your results at your next outpatient appointment.

If you are an inpatient, the results can be accessed by the Doctors looking after you on the ward.

Further Information

Please check your appointment letter to confirm if your Ultrasound scan is booked for Beaumont Hospital or Omni Outpatient Centre in Santry.

Directions– Beaumont Hospital:

The Ultrasound Department is located on the Lower Ground Floor of Beaumont Hospital. Please check in at the Main X-ray Reception on arrival.

Directions– Omni Outpatient Centre, Santry:

Omni Park Shopping Centre is located on the Swords Road, Santry, Dublin 9, approximately 6 km from the centre of Dublin. Omni Park is convenient to several bus routes and just off the M1. The 1, 41, 41C, 16 and 13 buses run from the centre of Dublin.

The Outpatient Centre is located on the first floor of Omni Park Shopping Centre. Parking for patients and visitors is available at OMNI Shopping Centre. Cars are parked at owner's own risk.

If you have any questions, require further information, have specific requirements, please contact the US Secretaries on: **01-8092792** or email **usreferrals@beaumont.ie**.



US Thyroid
Date Approved: July 2023
Version No. 2
Date for Review: July 2025
US Department, Beaumont Hospital
<http://www.beaumont.ie/us>

Beaumont Imaging & Interventional Directorate



BEAUMONT
HOSPITAL



RCSI HOSPITALS
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PATIENT INFORMATION

LEAFLET:

ULTRASOUND THYROID



Introduction

An Ultrasound of your Thyroid has been requested for you and this leaflet explains what the scan involves and what you need to do to prepare for your scan. Your Ultrasound scan will help make a diagnosis or monitor your treatment.

What is an Ultrasound Scan?

An Ultrasound scan, sometimes called a sonogram, is a procedure that uses high frequency sound waves to view internal organs and produce images of the human body. These soundwaves travel at a higher frequency than we can hear.

This Ultrasound scan will look specifically at the thyroid gland. The thyroid gland is located in the front of the neck, just below the Adam's apple and shaped like a butterfly. There are two lobes on either side of the neck, connected by a narrow band of tissue.

As sound waves are used rather than radiation, this procedure is considered very safe. There are no known side effects. Please inform staff if you have a latex allergy.

How do I prepare for my Ultrasound scan?

No special preparation is required. There is no need to fast before your Ultrasound examination. Take any medication you have been prescribed as normal and removal of necklaces is recommended.

On the day of your scan, you should arrive **15 minutes** before your appointment time. As Beaumont is an acute hospital there may be occasions when other patients may need to be scanned urgently which could mean you experience a delay to your appointed time. Patients should be aware that there may be a number of lists running simultaneously, and therefore, you may not be called in order of arrival in the department.

Ultrasound examinations are performed in a dimly lit room, to allow for images on the screen to be seen more clearly.

During the Examination

A small handheld probe will be placed on your thyroid and moved back and forth over the neck. A cold, water based gel is put onto your skin to allow the probe move smoothly and obtain the image. At the end of the scan, tissue will be provided to wipe away the gel.

The scan takes approximately 15-20 minutes, but may be longer for certain examinations. Occasionally a second opinion is required and this can increase the exam time.

Giving my Consent (Permission):

We want to involve you in decisions about your care and treatment. The Sonographer/ Radiologist will ask you if you are happy to go ahead with your scan. This is called verbal consent. If you do not wish to have the scan or are undecided, please tell the Sonographer/ Radiologist. It is your decision and you can change your mind at any time. If you wish to have a chaperone present during the scan, please alert a healthcare professional before the scan begins. Students/ trainees may be present during the scan, but only with your verbal consent.