



Beaumont Hospital

Patient Information
on

**Breast
Ultrasound**

What is a breast ultrasound?

A breast ultrasound is an imaging examination that uses sound waves to produce detailed images of the breast.

How long will the scan last?

The study will last approximately 5-15 minutes but can vary from patient to patient.

How is the scan performed?

- Firstly, you will be asked to change into a gown.
- You will then be called into the ultrasound room where you will meet the radiologist (doctor who specialises in imaging). They will ask you about your breast problem and answer any questions you might have about the test.
- You will then be asked to lie on your back on the examination table with your arm raised above your head.
- The radiologist will spread some gel on your skin and then press a small hand held sensor (transducer) firmly against your breast, moving it back and forth over the area of interest.
- The radiologist will be watching the monitor and taking images during the exam.
- Once the exam is complete the gel will be wiped off your skin and you will redress.

What will I feel during the scan?

Most breast ultrasound examinations are painless, fast and easy.

Is there any particular aftercare?

No, after a breast ultrasound examination you may resume your normal activities.

When will I get my results?

The radiologist will discuss the results briefly with you at the end of the exam. An official written report will be sent to your referring doctor within 7 working days.

Breast awareness

Women of all ages should be breast aware.

Remember the 5 point breast awareness code:

1. Know what is normal for you.
2. Know what changes to look for.
3. Look and feel.
4. Discuss changes with your GP without delay.
5. Attend for routine breast screening once aged 50 and over*.

*If you are aged 50 to 69 you are eligible for Breast Check, the National Breast Screening Programme. If this is the case you should be on their register and an invitation will be sent in the post every 2 years with an appointment. If you are unsure if you are on the register or not, you can call BreastCheck on 1800454555 or log onto breastcheck.ie

If you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us on one of the following numbers below.

Breast Imaging Unit: (01) 8092279

Breast Care Nurse Specialists: (01) 8093183

Date issued: Feb 2017

Review Date: Feb 2019

Author(s) Breast Care Office

Approved by: Breast Care Office