INFORMATION REGARDING PELVIC AND OBSTETRIC ULTRASOUNDS

Your healthcare provider has requested an ultrasound because they believe it is a valuable tool to assist them in your care. A gynecological ultrasound (pelvic area) evaluates and measures your uterus, uterine lining (endometrium, the area behind your uterus (cul-de-sac), the ovaries and the area around each ovary (adnexa), if necessary the kidneys may also be examined. If you are pregnant, an ultrasound examination can be used to confirm the location of the pregnancy, to determine expected date of delivery, and to evaluate the fetus (or fetuses) and the environment in which the fetus is growing (pelvic area as above).

The ultrasound images must be interpreted by a specially trained physician for detail, accuracy and relevance to the clinical situation. Results will be sent directly to the referring physician, usually within 24 hours of your exam.

The Exam

Pelvic and obstetric ultrasound exams can consist of two parts: the transabdominal (through the abdominal wall) and the transvaginal (through the vaginal wall). Due to imaging characteristics, a woman may have both a transabdominal and transvaginal exam in order to ensure that the entire area is visualized.

During a transabdominal exam, lubricant will be applied to your abdomen and the transducer will be moved over the abdomen. Sound waves sent out from the transducer enter the body and are reflected back as they come into contact with your internal organs. The only sensation you usually feel with this portion of the exam is firm pressure on your abdomen from the transducer. This type of exam requires the patient to have a full bladder.

You will be allowed to empty your bladder before the transvaginal portion of the exam is done. Your sonographer will advise you prior to beginning the exam and ask for your consent. The transvaginal exam is done with a transducer probe placed into your vagina. Images are obtained from different orientations to get the best views of the uterus and ovaries. As previously stated sound waves are sent out from the transducer and reflected back as images.

Reporting and Billing

It is important for you to be aware that both methods are separately billable services, even when they are performed together. If both methods are performed at your ultrasound visit they will appear separately on the statement to your insurance, and also your statement if there is any balance being forwarded to you.

If you have any questions regarding the cost or billing of your exam, please notify the front desk. They will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

By signing below, you acknowledge that you have read the above and take responsibility for all charges incurred during your exam and that your questions have been answered to your satisfaction at this time.

___________________________________________
Signature of Patient or Authorized Representative

___________________________________________
Date

___________________________________________
Print Name of Patient/Authorized Representative