Ultrasound Unit

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What is Ultrasound?

Ultrasound medical imaging is used to visualize internal organs, to capture their size, structure and detect any pathological lesions. Color Doppler ultrasound provides visualization of the bloodflow, using color processing to add
color to the image so that it is possible to see what is happening inside the body.
Ultrasound scans are uses for routine testing at all stages of pregnancy as well as to examine women suffering from gynecological problems.

Ultrasound for Pregnant Women

Three to four percent of new infants are born with anatomical abnormalities. While in half the cases these defects are insignificant, in the others, they are likely to cause the death or disability of the newborn.
These defects may be due to a variety of causes: genetic, illness of the mother, multiple-embryo pregnancy, exposure to drugs or radiation, and others. In most cases, the cause is unknown. The best way to rule out fetal abnormality in your baby is an ultrasound examination, which shows what your baby looks like while still inside your womb and can provide important information about your baby.
If an anomaly is indeed discovered, it is strongly recommended that the parents plan how to deal with it. Sometimes defects can be corrected during the pregnancy or after birth.

The Ultrasound Unit at Laniado Hospital
Recommended Ultra-Sound Testing

Ultrasound is the main diagnostic tool in the prenatal detection of congenital abnormalities. The tests are carried out by a three-dimensional ultrasound machine that produce pictures in real time, providing a photograph that shows the embryo's body movements and heart contractions. At the end of the examination you will receive a detailed written report as well as an oral explanation – which you will have the option of recording on a DVD - of the findings with recommendations by your doctor for follow-up.

- Gestational age: 6-7 weeks

It is already possible to identify a fetus and a pulse. The accurate assessment of gestational age at this time makes it possible to establish an intrauterine growth curve and monitor the baby's development.

- Gestational age: 10-14 weeks

The nuchal translucency scan measures the translucent space at the back of the baby's neck; the greater the thickness of the tissue under the skin in the back of the fetus' neck, the greater the risk for various genetic syndromes and other defects, such as heart defects. In conjunction with the HCG.B and PAPP blood tests, the nuchal translucent test has an 85% accuracy rate in predicting Down Syndrome.

- Gestational age: 14-16 weeks

The early systems scan, which is usually performed vaginally, is designed to detect early severe structural deformities and to make it possible to act accordingly. These include abnormalities that preclude fetal survival outside the womb, as well as defects that can be treated once the baby is born. If a defect is found, additional testing, such as a fetal

echocardiogram or amniocentesis, which will provide additional information about the defect, will likely be performed and relevant medical specialists contacted.

- Fetal age: 20-22 weeks

The late systems scan: (abdominal)

- Gestational age: 30-32 weeks

The assessment of fetal weight scan provides important information about the birth including the anticipated date.

*The Clalilit Health Fund-Mushlam now covers the nuchal translucency, early systems, and late systems tests.

Color Doppler scans are used to evaluate the blood flow in the placenta, uterus, umbilical cord and brain arteries. The test results help diagnose fetal growth disorders and to make decisions accordingly.

Gynecological Ultrasound

Ultrasound is also used to detect gynecological problems. It is used to measure the size of the uterus and ovaries, to diagnose ovarian tumors and pelvic nodules, for endometrial examinations, to monitor fertility treatment, and support various surgical procedures. Color Doppler scans are used to evaluate blood flow in the uterine and ovarian blood vessels, making possible a more accurate diagnosis of benign and malignant processes in the ovaries and uterus.

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