

Ultrasounds

Pregnancy

Routine ultrasounds are performed in Suite 5 at Los Olivos. It is common for the physicians to order a screening ultrasound between 16 and 20 weeks. Ultrasounds check for placental and fetal abnormalities but cannot detect all problems. They do not evaluate fetal genetic abnormalities. If you will be over the age of 35 at delivery, or if you are high risk, your doctor may refer you to Obstetrix for a Level II ultrasound.

We cannot videotape the ultrasound for you. You may bring a camera and videotape directly from the screen. You will be given pictures from the ultrasound. If you are scheduled for an ultrasound, your family is welcome to attend. When family members attend routine visits or your ultrasound appointment, we ask that you arrive in one car or use street parking for additional cars.

Gynecology

Gynecologic ultrasounds and early obstetric ultrasounds (before 9 weeks) and are performed with an intravaginal probe. Transvaginal diagnostic ultrasonography has become the most important development in the diagnosis and treatment of infertility. It allows the physician to detect pelvic abnormalities without doing invasive procedures or excessive x-rays. It will also guide the clinician during treatment cycles.

It is not necessary to have a full bladder for these ultrasounds. If you are under 18 or cannot tolerate an intravaginal probe for your gynecologic exam, please arrive with a full bladder.

Infertility

Nearly every infertility patient will have a baseline ultrasound looking for ovarian cysts or other tumors in the ovary. The uterus will be examined for "fibroid" tumors and the endometrial lining checked for thickness and its pattern. If the endometrium is irregular it may indicate a polyp in the cavity. During controlled ovarian hyperstimulation the developing follicles in the ovary can be measured for appropriate growth. When conception occurs the pregnancy can also be monitored to insure its well being.

Los Olivos Ultrasounds

Los Olivos has an ultrasound machines in Suite 1 and Suite 5. The Suite 5 ultrasound has the ability to perform color imaging. Color imaging can be used to measure blood flow and uterine artery resistance which may be important in diagnosis and treatment.