



MGH Thyroid Ultrasound

Check in:

If you are scheduled at the main campus, you will report to Ultrasound Radiology Reception (White 2).

If your exam is scheduled at the MGH Waltham location report to Suite 100, Parc building, 40 Second Ave., Waltham, MA 02451. Call 781-890-2627 if you need directions.

If your exam is scheduled at the MGH Chelsea location report to the Radiology Department, 1st floor. The address is 151 Everett Ave, Chelsea, MA 02150. Call 617-889-8510 if you need directions.

If your scan is scheduled at the Yawkey Center for Outpatient Care, report to Yawkey 6th floor - Suite 6E.

All exams are performed by MGH technologists (sonographers) and interpreted by MGH physicians at the main campus regardless of where they are performed.

Purpose:

Thyroid ultrasound is a common imaging modality used to examine the thyroid gland.

Ultrasound examination of the thyroid can help evaluate the size and texture of the gland.

Examinations:

You should wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothing for your US exam. There is no preparation for a thyroid ultrasound examination.

The routine thyroid ultrasound consists of the sonographer taking several images of the right and left lobes of the thyroid gland. The exam requires that a small amount of gel be placed on your neck and a transducer is guided over the area to capture the desired images. The exam duration is approximately thirty minutes.

When the examination is complete, the patient will wait in the room while the ultrasound images are reviewed by the radiologist, either on film or on a TV monitor.

Ultrasound imaging of the thyroid gland should be painless. There may be varying degrees of discomfort from pressure as the transducer is moved over your neck.

A radiologist, who is a physician experienced in ultrasound and other radiology examinations, will analyze the images and send a signed report with images over the internet to the patient's personal physician. The personal physician's office will inform the patient on how to obtain their results. Reports are generally available the same day the ultrasound is performed. The sonographer will not be giving results to the patient. Results information must be obtained through your physician.

Post Procedure:

After the test, you may resume all normal activities. Your physician will discuss the results of your ultrasound examination with you.