Renal Ultrasound

This handout explains how to prepare and what to expect during a renal and bladder ultrasound, including:

- *Renal Complete*
- *Renal Limited*
- *Renal with Contrast*
- *Bladder Ultrasound*

How should I prepare?

- Please come to your exam with a full bladder.
- You will need to move your shirt up and your pants down a little so we can see your abdomen (belly).
- Please allow 30 minutes for the exam.
- If your exam includes contrast, a nurse will place an IV in your arm. This exam can take up to 1 hour.

What is a renal ultrasound?

Ultrasound exams use sound waves to create images of the inside of the body. A renal ultrasound looks at your kidneys and bladder. A *sonographer* (ultrasound technologist) uses a handheld tool called a *transducer* that takes pictures. This device sends and receives sound waves to make a picture.

How is the exam done?

The sonographer will put gel on your skin on your abdomen. They will use some pressure and move the transducer around to get the pictures. We may ask you to hold your breath for a short amount of time. We may also ask you to roll on your side or change positions.

How do I get my results?

A *radiologist* (imaging doctor) will review all the pictures and send a report to the doctor who ordered your exam. You can also see your results on your MyChart.

Questions?

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns.

- **UWMC Imaging Services:** 206.598.6200
- **UW Roosevelt Imaging Services:** 206.598.6868
- **Harborview Imaging Services:** 206.744.3105
- **UW Eastside Clinic Imaging Services:** 206.598.8122

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