What can I expect during the procedure?
An ultrasound exam takes between 30 and 60 minutes. The test is performed by a specially trained sonographer. The sonographer begins by applying gel to the skin over the organ to be examined; this facilitates the transmission of the sound waves. A transducer (*sound wave transmitter and receiver*) is moved back and forth over the area being studied, and the internal images are recorded in the computer and displayed on the video monitor in real time.

After the test?
There are no after effects from ultrasound.

How and when will I get my test results?
Typically, within 48 hours a written report of your test results will be sent to your referring doctor, who will review them with you. Additional time *(3 to 5 days)* may be required if we are comparing these test results to previous findings from other facilities.

Where is the test performed?
Your ultrasound test will be performed in the Imaging Services Department of Cayuga Medical Center at the location selected below.
Ultrasound

**What is the test?**
Ultrasound is painless. It is used to examine internal organs and to help diagnose various diseases. Ultrasound tests or sonograms use sound waves to examine parts of the body. The images are created by sending and receiving high frequency sound waves into the body using a special transducer. The images are constantly updated and, therefore, can be used in evaluating moving structures. Sonograms are often used in pregnancy, and to evaluate the liver, gallbladder, kidneys, blood vessels, as well as many other parts of the body. There is no radiation involved with ultrasound, and there are no risks known to be associated with its use.

**How do I prepare?**
Plan to arrive at your designated Imaging Services site 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment. Preparation for an ultrasound test varies, depending on the area being evaluated. If you wear loose clothing to the exam you may not need to change into a gown.

**My ultrasound is:**

- **Abdomen, Gallbladder, Liver, Aorta, Pancreas, Kidneys, Spleen**
  **Preparation:**
  Nothing to eat or drink after midnight. Pills typically can be taken with small sips of water. If you are diabetic, consult with your doctor about your medication prior to the test.

- **Bladder, Pelvic, and Pregnancy**
  **Preparation:**
  A full bladder is needed to view the pelvic structures, so stay well-hydrated all day by drinking plenty of fluids. Then one hour prior to the test, finish drinking 32 ounces of fluid. Do not urinate prior to test.

- **Thyroid, Testicular, Breast, and Soft Tissue**
  **Preparation:**
  None.

- **Transvaginal**
  **Preparation:**
  None.