

Mesenteric Artery Ultrasound

What:

An ultrasound to assess the blood vessels that supply the intestine and other abdominal organs.

Why:

In order for your intestines to digest and process food, they require adequate blood supply. Also, the vessels that supply vital organs, such as your spleen, must provide adequate blood flow to allow these organs to function properly. This ultrasound will assess all these vessels and identify any problems with the blood flow in these vessels.

Involves:

- Fasting preparation (please see our patient preparation information section).
- The scan is performed in a private ultrasound room where a sonographer will explain the scan and answer any questions you may have.
- You will be asked to remove any clothing covering the abdomen, generally the top layers pulled up to the level of the chest, and asked to lie down on an examination bed.
- An ultrasound probe and some gel will be placed on the abdomen. Firm pressure may be applied to achieve adequate images, but this should not cause any discomfort.
- The sound of a pulse will be heard from the ultrasound machine, this is when blood flow is being assessed

The results will be sent to the referring Doctor who will discuss and explain the outcome to you.