

What you need to know about Ultrasound

Preparing for your procedure.



**Your wellness is
our priority.**

St. Paul Radiology takes great pride by providing you with the best care and service experience in the East Metro area.

We want to ensure you a positive experience at one of our St. Paul Radiology locations by offering information on Ultrasound.

Ultrasound examinations are non-invasive and painless, and are performed with the use of a probe that emits sound waves, making an image from the reflection of the sound waves. Diagnostic ultrasound is performed for a wide variety of indications, including obstetrical evaluation, identifying gallstones, and evaluating aneurysms.

What is an ultrasound?

An ultrasound is an examination using high-frequency sound waves to create images. Ultrasound does not involve radiation. A licensed sonographer (a technologist specially trained in the field of ultrasound) will perform your exam. Your exam and films will be monitored and interpreted by a radiologist.

Is there any preparation on my part prior to my appointment?

Abdomen - This exam studies the organs in your abdomen (liver, gallbladder, pancreas, kidneys, spleen and aorta). Please do not eat or drink anything after midnight prior to your exam. If you have an afternoon appointment, do not eat or drink for eight hours prior to the exam.

Pelvic or Obstetrical - Whether you are pregnant or not, you will be required to drink four 8 ounce glasses of water one hour before your appointment time. Please do not use the restroom until after your exam. Your bladder must be full in order to study the pelvic organs, and if you are pregnant, the anatomy of your baby. Your bowel lies in front of these structures/organs, and a full bladder will push the bowel away to allow a better view.

Vascular - Vascular exams are used to evaluate your arteries and veins. With Doppler ultrasound we can examine the anatomy and blood flow patterns in your vessels. No preparation is required.

What should I bring to my appointment?

Please bring your insurance card. Your insurance company will be billed for the procedure. You will receive a bill for any co-pay or non-covered expenses from St. Paul Radiology Outpatient Imaging.

How long will my examination last?

Ultrasound examinations last 30-45 minutes. This may vary depending on the type of exam.

What should I expect during my examination?

After you enter the examination room, the sonographer will ask you some brief questions concerning your medical history and current symptoms. This information is important to your exam.

For an abdominal exam, you will not be asked to undress, but will need to uncover your abdomen. You will be asked to lie on your back on the examination table.

Pelvic and Obstetrical exams may be performed in two different ways. The first method involves moving a small probe called a transducer across your abdomen. A gel will be applied to your skin and the sonographer will apply mild to moderate pressure allowing the transducer to emit and receive sound waves to form images.

The second method uses a transducer specially designed to be placed in the vagina. The transducer will be placed into your vagina with lubricating gel and the necessary images recorded. This technique allows a more detailed exam of the adjacent structures/organs. The method to be used will be decided at the time of the exam and is based on your medical history.

How will I receive my ultrasound results?

A Board Certified Radiologist (a physician who specializes in interpreting diagnostic images) will study the images from your examination and send a report to your physician.



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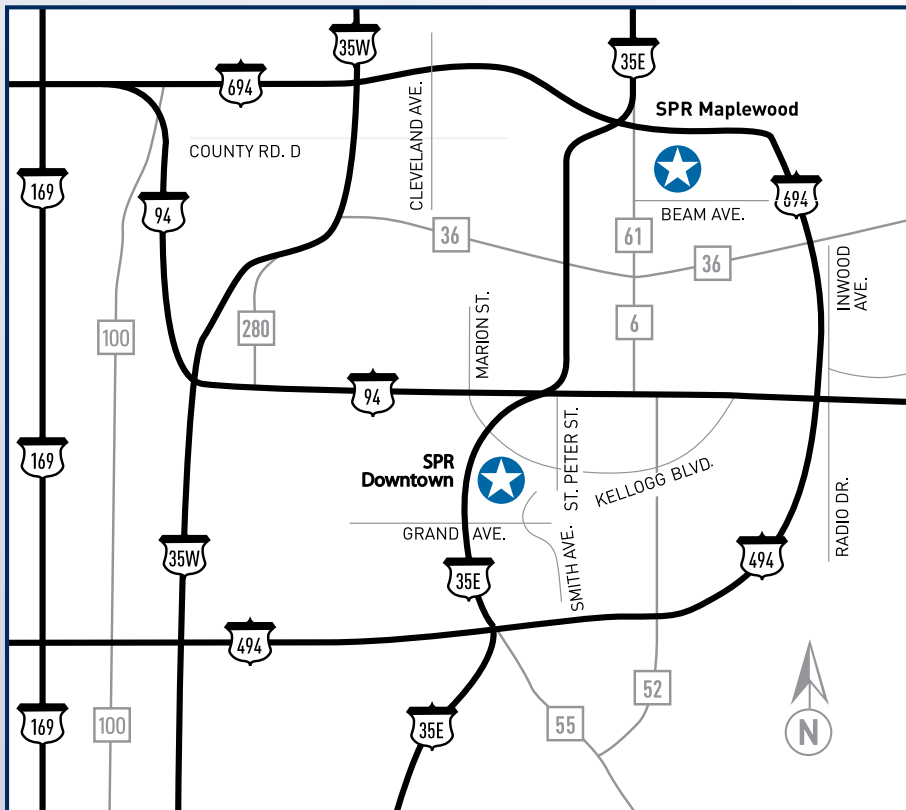
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Over 98% of patients surveyed say their experience with us was like a walk in the park.

Over 98% patients surveyed said they were satisfied with their experience at St. Paul Radiology. We understand their concerns and make them a priority.

If you have additional questions, please contact the St. Paul Radiology scheduling department at **651.632.5700.**



Map not to scale.

DOWNTOWN
250 Thompson Street
St. Paul, MN 55102
651.602.7200

MAPLEWOOD
2945 Hazelwood Street N
Suite #110
Maplewood, MN 55109
651.747.4500

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Appointment

Name: _____

Location: _____

At: _____ : _____ On: _____ (Day), ___/___/___ (Date)



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