

We value your feedback

If you would like to give a compliment or raise a concern, there are several options available to you.

1. You can tell us what is going well and what can be improved by scanning the QR code and completing the MyExperience survey. It will only take a few minutes and is completely anonymous.
2. Speak to the Midwife in charge / senior member of staff first. They may be able to resolve your concerns quickly.
3. If you would prefer to speak to somebody not connected to the department, contact:



- **Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)**

Email PALS@health.gov.je

Call +44 (0) 1534 443515

- **Feedback**

Email feedback@health.gov.je

Call +44 (0)1534 442044

- Or to submit a **compliment, complaint, comment or suggestion**, search 'feedback' on the GOV.je website.



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Gouvernement d'Jèrri

Health and Community Services



Patient Information

Ultrasound scans in pregnancy

Information about the ultrasound scans offered to you in your pregnancy including the Dating Scan, the Combined Test and the Anomaly Scan

Maternity Department
Jersey General Hospital

Gouvernement d'Jèrri

Ultrasound scans in pregnancy

Ultrasound scans are an exciting part of your pregnancy and for most parents a happy experience.

An ultrasound scan is a medical examination and a screening tool which enables us to detect differences in your baby which will then help you to make decisions about the management of your pregnancy

Sadly, in some cases, it may be necessary for the Sonographer to share sad news with you. If this does happen, you will be referred to a doctor or midwife for further information.

We offer all pregnant women:

- an ultrasound scan combined with a blood test at between 12 and 14 weeks of pregnancy to screen for Down's, Edward's or Patau's syndrome
- an ultrasound scan between 20 weeks, and 20 weeks and 6 days to screen for physical differences in your baby

All ultrasound scans are optional and the information in this leaflet will help you decide if you want screening.

The dating scan

This scan is performed between 12 weeks, and 14 weeks 1 day. On average the scan takes around 20-30 minutes.

The scan is carried out with gel on your abdomen (tummy), and the Sonographer passing the probe backwards and forwards over your skin.

Further Information

Screening tests for you and your baby



Information about the screening tests offered during and after pregnancy. Visit www.Gov.UK and search 'STFYAYB' or scan the QR code above.

NHS Fetal Anomaly Screening Programme



A useful source of information, search www.fetalanomaly.screening.nhs.uk or scan the QR code above.

Contact us

If you have any further questions or concerns about your ultrasound scans or if you need to change your appointment contact us on 01534 442495.

General Information

- attend your scan with a moderately full bladder this helps us obtain good views of your baby
- bring your pregnancy notes with you
- the use of recording equipment is not permitted in the scan room
- all mobile phones should be put away and on silent while in the room
- the quality of scan images, and consequently the accuracy of the results, may be reduced if you are overweight
- all scans are optional, discuss any concerns with your Midwife or the Sonographer before the scan
- remove abdominal piercings

We are a busy department and the nature of our work means we occasionally experience delays (though we always do our best to avoid this). We ask that you allow plenty of time for your appointment and arrive on time. If you arrive late we may have to re-book your scan for another day.

Bringing someone with you

This is a medical examination and an important antenatal screening test. For your comfort and safety, only one adult may accompany you during the scan. (If there are special circumstances, these may be discussed with the Sonographer at the beginning of the appointment).

Notes

Keep a note of your upcoming appointments or anything you'd like to ask the Midwifery Team.

This scan helps us:

- estimate your delivery date
- find out if you are expecting more than one baby
- check your pregnancy is progressing normally.
- check for early physical differences in your baby
- determine if a combined screening test is possible

About the Combined Test

With your permission, the Sonographer measures the amount of fluid lying under the skin at the back of the baby's neck. This is known as the nuchal translucency (NT) measurement.



Example of the nuchal translucency (NT) measurement showing fluid behind the baby's neck

After the scan we take a blood sample from you. We use this to measure certain hormones in your blood that are passed to you from your baby.

If, when you attend, you are found to be beyond the combined screening window a Midwife will discuss your choices for screening.

Results

We use a programme which works out the chance of Down's, Edward's or Patau's syndromes using:

- the blood test results
- the NT measurement
- your age (or the age of your egg donor if applicable)
- weight
- weeks of pregnancy

There is an 85% to 90% detection rate with this test and results take around a week to come back. Twin results may take a little longer.

If the result is high chance (this is considered a 1 in 150 chance or higher in Jersey) you will be contacted by telephone. We send all other results through the post. You should keep the results in your pregnancy notes.

The detailed anomaly scan

The scan is carried out in the same way as the dating scan, with gel on your abdomen (tummy), and the Sonographer passing the probe backwards and forwards over your skin. The Sonographer takes key measurements of your baby to check baby is growing normally.

They will examine baby's:

- heart
- brain, neck and spine
- kidneys and bladder
- arms and legs
- hands and feet
- lips and face
- stomach and intestines

The detailed anomaly scan is performed between 20 weeks, and 20 weeks 6 days, it is a detailed ultrasound scan, sometimes called a mid- pregnancy scan, which checks for major physical differences in your baby.

They will also check the position of the placenta. If the placenta is near the exit of the womb, you will need another scan later in your pregnancy to assess if the placenta has moved.

This scan usually takes around 30 minutes.

The anomaly scan is unable to detect every difference. A normal scan at 20 weeks does not guarantee a healthy baby at delivery. Some differences only become evident later on in pregnancy, after 20 weeks, or after baby is born.

	Ultrasound detection rate % (chances of seeing at 20 weeks)
Spinal problems	90%
Cleft Lip	75%
Heart problems	50%
Bowel problems	80 to 90%
Kidney problems	84%

Table showing examples on the detection rates of some differences.

In some cases, serious differences are detected. When a difference is found the Consultant Obstetrician will also scan you and may offer to refer you to a specialist hospital for a second opinion and to discuss the best management

Anatomy checks

At this stage in your pregnancy your baby's external genitalia has developed enough to identify sex. After their checks are complete, the Sonographer may be able to offer an opinion on the gender of your baby. This will depend on the position of your baby and is not 100% guaranteed. This will not be written down.