

Your 20 week obstetric anomaly scan

What is a 20 week anomaly scan?

This is a detailed ultrasound scan, sometimes called the mid-pregnancy scan, which checks for major physical abnormalities in your baby. However, it is unable to pick up every problem. The scan is carried out in the same way as your dating scan, with gel on your abdomen (tummy) and the sonographer passing the ultrasound probe backwards and forwards over your skin.

How do I prepare for it?

- Please do not go to the toilet for one hour prior to your appointment. You need some fluid in your bladder, but not so much that you feel uncomfortable.
- Make sure you bring your pregnancy notes with you.
- Please allow up to two hours for your appointment, though most appointments are completed within 30 minutes.

Important information

- The use of recording equipment is not permitted in the scan rooms.
- All mobile phones must be turned off while in the department.
- We are a very busy department and the nature of our work means we can occasionally experience delays. We ask that you allow plenty of time for your appointment and arrive on time. If you are late, it may be necessary to rebook your scan for another day.

Can I bring someone with me?

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.

Please note that children are not allowed in the scan rooms whilst the scan is taking place, and the Radiology department are unable to care for children during your examination.

Can I have a picture of the scan?

The ultrasound staff can provide an image of your baby in return for a donation. Please note the photograph is only a personal record and is not an image for diagnostic purposes.

If you would like this leaflet in large print, braille, audio version or in another language, please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01872 252793