

# Kidney or Aorta Ultrasound



## What is a Kidney or Aorta Ultrasound?

Ultrasound imaging or sonography uses sound waves to produce pictures of the inside of the body. Ultrasound exams do not use radiation. Ultrasound images are captured in real-time so they can show the structure and movement of the body's internal organs, as well as blood flowing through blood vessels.

**Anatomy Visualized:** This exam is either of the cenitourinary system **or** the abdominal aorta with the main iliac arteries.

## CPT Code

76770 complete retroperitneal area

76775 limited to one retroperitoneal area or organ or follow up of a limited area

## Indications

Renal: follow-up mass or cyst, hematuria, back pain, recurrent UTI, renal disease or insufficiency

Aorta: back pain, family or personal history of abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA), pulsatile abdominal mass, smoking, vascular disease, medicare screening

## Contraindications

none

## How Does Your Patient Prepare?

Patient needs to be well hydrated for a renal or bladder exam.

## **What Happens During the Test?**

Our technician will obtain a medical history. Your patient will be asked to lie down on an examination table. The technician will place a clear gel on his abdomen. The patient will need to change positions or hold his breath as indicated by the technologist during the exam.

The sonographer (ultrasound technologist) or radiologist then presses the transducer against the skin and sweeps it back and forth over the abdomen. The transducer is a small hand-held device that resembles a microphone, attached to an ultrasound machine by a cord.

For renal or bladder tests, your patient may be asked to empty his bladder and then rescanned to obtain pre and post void urinary volumes.

The exam takes approximately 30-60 minutes to complete.

## **After the Test**

After the exam the gel is wiped off. Your patient may resume normal activities.

## **The Results**

A radiologist will analyze the images and send a signed report to the referring physician within 1 business day.

(Information adapted from [www.radiologyinfo.org](http://www.radiologyinfo.org) and Dr. Jill Westercamp)

*This manual is intended for use as merely a guideline for referring physicians and their staff only. It contains information pertaining to the most commonly ordered exams and indications. However, Iowa Radiology does not recommend any particular examination. Individual radiologist preference or patient circumstances may dictate ordering alternative studies. Although contrast codes are not needed to place an order, the following contrast codes may be used in placing orders: CT Contrast Q9967, MRI contrast A9577 and A9579.*