

## Ultrasound examination or procedure of the joints

You have been referred for an ultrasound examination.

Please reserve one hour for your visit.

The examination usually takes 20 minutes.

Patients who need urgent examinations may be examined before you.

Please see the arrival instructions or appointment letter for contact information, if you have any questions about the examination.

### Before the examination

- You may eat and drink as usual before the examination.

**If your referral contains a procedure and you are on blood-thinning medication**, your referring physician will provide

- instructions for taking your medication, and
- a referral for a laboratory test. Please visit the laboratory on the day of the examination or the previous weekday before your ultrasound.

### During the examination

An ultrasound examination is normally painless. No radiation will be used.

You will be sitting or lying down for the examination and you will need to remove clothes from the area to be examined.

A radiologist or a radiographer will spread gel on the area to be examined and move the ultrasound probe on your skin.

The radiologist can take a needle aspiration sample from a joint or inject medication into a joint.

The sample will be sent to the laboratory to be analyzed.

### After the examination

- You will receive the results of the examination from the doctor who treats you.
- If you do not know how to find out the results, please contact the outpatient clinic or ward that referred you to this examination.

If a procedure was performed, the X-ray unit will give you instructions for after-care.

If the procedure was performed on your hip, the unit that referred you will provide instructions.

Please note beforehand that, after the procedure, you will need to

- keep the injection site dry for 24 hours,
- avoid straining the joint in any way for 24 hours, and
- avoid hard manual labor or exercise for a week so as not to stress the joint.

## **Other things to note**

- You will not be charged for the examination or procedure separately.
- Cancel the appointment if you cannot come.  
If you do not cancel, you will be charged a fine.

## **Further information**

Watch video of examinations:

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) >> Tutkimukset  
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