Ultrasound examination or procedure of the joints

Your doctor has referred you for an ultrasound examination. The treating unit will inform you of the time and place of the examination.

The actual examination takes approximately 20 minutes. The radiology department also examines emergency patients, which may cause changes to the schedule. Please reserve 60 minutes for the examination.

Preparation for examination

Examination
- No special preparations are needed.

Procedure
- If you use anticoagulants, please go to the laboratory on the procedure day before the procedure as instructed by the unit responsible for your care.

Examination

An ultrasound examination is painless and does not cause exposure to radiation. During the examination, you will lie or sit on the examination table depending on the site being examined. The area to be examined will be spread with gel.

If necessary, samples can be collected from the synovial fluid or the joint injected with medicinal agents in connection with the ultrasound examination. Ultrasound procedure is performed under local anesthesia.

After the examination

Examination
- Does not require any post treatment

Procedure
- After an ultrasound procedure, the puncture location should be kept dry for a day due to a risk of infection.
- Avoid straining the joint for a day after the procedure. Avoid strenuous activities, for example hard labour or intense exercises, for approximately a week.
- After the procedure you will be given separate post-treatment instructions at the radiology department. Please note: after a hip procedure the unit responsible for your care will instruct you on the post-operative treatment.

The doctor in charge of your care will inform you of the results of the examination. If you have not already been booked for an appointment or for a phone consultation, please contact the unit treating you in order to obtain the results.

Other things to note

Please take your health insurance card (Kela card) or identity card with you.

A separate fee will be charged for missed examinations which have not been cancelled beforehand.

These instructions are on the HUS website: www.hus-imaging.fi > Examinations > Ultrasound

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