

**Patient
Information**

Contrast Enhanced Ultrasound Scan

Introduction

This leaflet gives you information about the contrast enhanced ultrasound scan (CEUS) and answers any questions you may have. If you have any concerns after reading this leaflet, please contact us.

What is a contrast enhanced ultrasound scan?

CEUS or 'bubble study', is when the scan is improved by an injected saline-based solution to give a more detailed look at your blood vessels. The flow of bubbles can show that all is normal or whether there is anything wrong. This scan can help with your diagnosis or be part of a routine check up to detect or rule out any other problems.

How is this scan done?

No special preparation is needed. There may be more than one member of staff present. You will be asked about your condition including medication, allergies and whether you are happy to proceed.

You will then be asked to lie on an examination couch; your abdomen will need to be bare, so wear a top that can be lifted up for ease. A gel will be put on your abdomen and a sensor will be moved over the skin using gentle pressure. This will show images of your blood vessels on a screen. As part of the test, you will be given an injection of contrast agent (saline-based solution) into a vein in the back of your hand.

You will be asked to stay in the department for 30 minutes after the scan, just to check that everything is alright and then you can go home.

The total scan procedure usually takes no more than an hour. If you need to be seen by a member of the Vascular Team for any reason, this will be discussed with you before you leave the department.

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Department

**Vascular
Laboratory**

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A report will be written and your referring consultant will be informed of the results and discuss the findings with you.

Are there any complications or risks?

There are no complications or risks to having this ultrasound scan, but as with all injections, there are a small number of complications or risks that could occur, for example bleeding, allergic reaction, headache or feeling sick.

If you are not happy about having this scan, there are several alternatives, but not all are suitable for everyone. If you would like to discuss other options, please contact your referring consultant.

Can I drive following the examination?

You may drive home 30 minutes after the procedure.

Research

With your consent, your scan information may be used for future research to improve the quality of care for our patients.

Contact information

If you have any questions, please contact the Vascular Laboratory on **0300 422 5618** or your consultant's secretary.

References

Hull University Teaching Hospitals

<https://www.hey.nhs.uk/patient-leaflet/contrast-enhanced-ultrasound-examination>

Electronic Medicines Compendium

<https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/1539/smpc>

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