What you should know about your OB Ultrasound

**Purpose:**
A first trimester OB ultrasound is performed to measure the baby to determine a due date. The fetus and pelvic organs are evaluated both externally through the abdominal wall and internally through the vagina.

**Preparation:**
- You may be asked to remove some or all of your clothes and to wear a gown during the exam.
- You will need to drink 32 ounces of fluid at least one hour prior to your study and you may not empty your bladder. You need to have a full bladder for the first part of the test. You will be allowed to go to the restroom after the first part of your study is finished, which usually lasts 15 minutes.

**Procedure: What to Expect**
- We will verify your name, date of birth and procedure you will be having done.
- We will take a brief history.
- Your test will last approximately 40 minutes.
- You will lie down for this exam.
- The technologist will place warm gel on your lower abdomen and glide a smooth transducer over this area. The transducer emits sound waves to create an image on the monitor for the technologist to see.
- You will be asked to go to the restroom and empty your bladder completely.
- You will lie back down on the bed and the technologist will place a cushion under your hips to elevate them.
- A long thin transducer will be placed into the vagina to evaluate the baby more closely and get more accurate measurements.

**After the Test:**
- Your exam will be evaluated by a radiologist and the report will be sent to your physician.

**Imaging Department Phone Number:**
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