

◆ AFTER THE EXAM

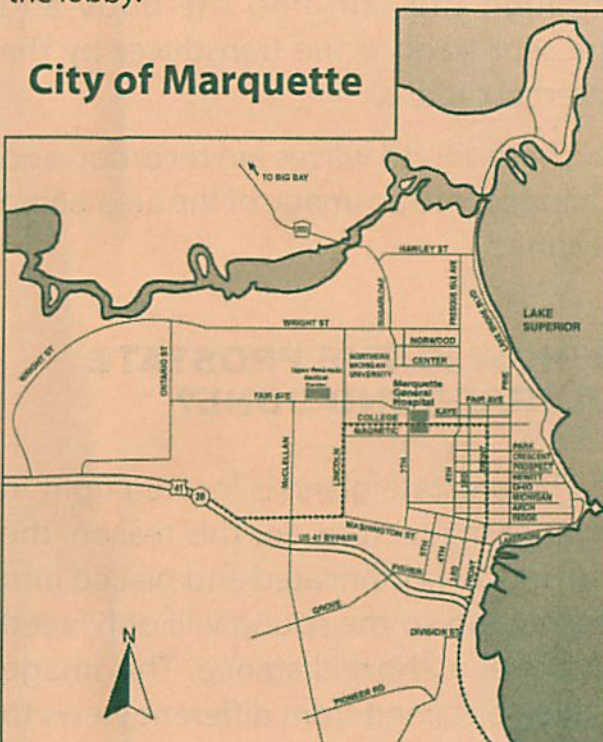
✧ You may have some mucous discharge or a small amount spotting from your rectum after your exam. You may notice this if you have hemorrhoids. If you have a biopsy, you may have a small amount of blood in your stool, urine, or semen after the exam.

◆ THE RESULTS

✧ When your exam is finished, the doctor will review the images. The results will be explained to you by your doctor. If a biopsy is taken, the results will be reviewed with you within a week.

◆ OUTPATIENTS

✧ If you are coming to MGH for an ultrasound appointment, you need to use the east entrance on College Avenue and register in the Endoscopy Department. Parking is available in the parking deck. If you are having difficulty walking, a wheelchair is available in the lobby.

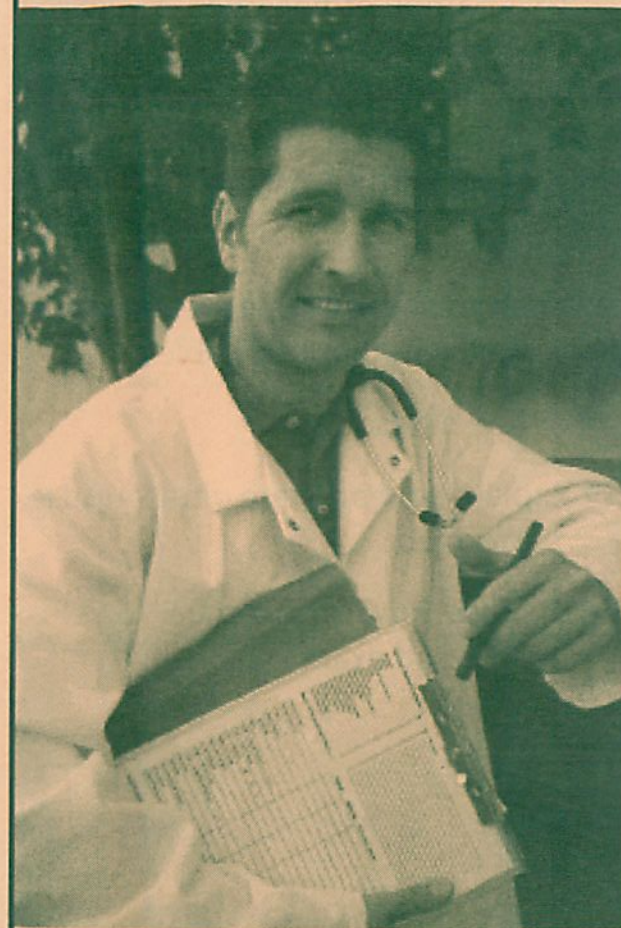


Ultrasound Department: (906) 225-3165
Scheduling: (906) 225-3551
Hours: 8:00am - 4:30pm Monday-Friday

Additional health information is available
through the MGH Health Information Center
(906) 225-4950
or 1-800-562-9753, ext. 4950

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ULTRASOUND OF THE PROSTATE



HEALTH INFORMATION GUIDE

MM MARQUETTE
GENERAL
HEALTH SYSTEM



✧ This pamphlet has been designed by the health care staff at Marquette General Health System to provide you with information about having an ultrasound of the prostate.

✧ When you have finished reading this pamphlet, you should be able to:

- define ultrasound
- explain how prostate ultrasound is performed
- discuss how to prepare for the ultrasound exam

◆ WHAT IS AN ULTRASOUND

✧ An ultrasound is an exam that uses sound waves to view the structures inside the body. A transducer, a hand held instrument that looks like a microphone, is used to send the sound waves to the computer. The sound waves pass through the skin into the body and are sent back to the transducer by the internal organs.

✧ These sound waves are recorded and changed into an image of the area being scanned.

◆ HOW IS THE PROSTATE ULTRASOUND DONE?

✧ The prostate gland is located right in front of the rectum. For this reason, the transducer is lubricated and placed into the rectum so the sound will only need to travel a short distance. The image can be obtained from different views to get the best view of the prostate gland. Pictures are recorded on paper. Often, the prostate ultrasound is used to guide biopsies of the prostate. A small amount of tissue is taken for examination under the microscope by the pathologist.

✧ The exam will be done by a doctor, usually a urologist. A sonographer will assist with the exam. The ultrasound images will then be reviewed by the doctor.

✧ **Will it hurt?** The ultrasound of the prostate is similar in discomfort to a rectal exam done by your doctor. If a biopsy is done, the discomfort, due to the needle insertion, is often minimal. This is because the rectal wall is not sensitive in the region of the prostate; Local anesthetic MAY BE instilled prior to the biopsy.

◆ GETTING READY

✧ An enema is a routine prep for an ultrasound of the prostate. If a biopsy is planned, you may expect to be given antibiotics by mouth before and after the exam. Be sure to tell your doctor any medications you are taking and if you are allergic to any medications.

✧ Arrive in the Endoscopy Department 30 minutes before your exam to check in.

✧ The amount of time the exam will take depends on the reason you are having the exam, and the need for biopsy. The ultrasound scan and biopsy often take less than 10 minutes.