

Ultrasound Enhancement Agents

Information for patients and families

Who should not receive Ultrasound Enhancement agents?

- Women who are pregnant or breastfeeding
- Anyone having extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy (for kidney stones) within the next 24 hours
- Anyone with holes between heart chambers (you are checked for this during the first part of your ultrasound test)
- Anyone allergic to Polyethylene Glycol (PEG)
- Anyone with previous reaction to vaccines

For 24 hour professional health advice and information, call:



What is an Ultrasound Enhancement agent?

- This agent helps to show better ultrasound pictures.
- It is an injection of tiny gas filled bubbles. It is not iodine.
- The bubbles leave your body as you breathe and do not affect your kidneys or liver.

How is it given?

- An intravenous (IV) catheter is placed in your arm or hand.
- The agent is given through this intravenous catheter.
- The intravenous is removed before you go home.

Are there any side effects?

- 1 in 10,000 may have an allergic-like reaction, such as a rash around the intravenous (IV) site.
- Most common side effects reported are headache (2 to 3%), back pain (1 to 2%) and nausea (1%).
- Reactions disappear when you breathe out the gas from your body.

You will be asked to stay for 30 minutes after your ultrasound for observation.

This information is not intended as a substitute for professional medical care. Ask your healthcare provider about this information if you have any questions or concerns.

