



## NEONATAL SPINE ULTRASOUND

Patient: \_\_\_\_\_ Appointment Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Appointment Time: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm

Location: Diagnostic Imaging Department, lower level at Mankato Clinic  
1230 East Main Street, Mankato, MN 56001  
Please enter the Mankato Clinic front door (marked #50)

### Please check in at the Diagnostic Imaging Department.

The Mankato Clinic is requiring masking only for patients over the age of 2 that are feeling ill. If you are unable to keep your appointment or have questions, please call (507) 389-8570.

### What is a Neonatal Spine Ultrasound?

A neonatal spine ultrasound uses sound waves, not radiation, and an instrument called a transducer to obtain images of your child's lower spinal region. This test is done to evaluate sacral dimples for possible spinal abnormalities.

### How do I prepare for the test:

- There are no dietary restrictions for this test.
- Please finish feeding your child 30 minutes prior to the scheduled appointment.
- Bring any soothing/calming baby items (i.e. pacifier, blanket) along with you for the test, including a bottle with milk/formula.
- We recommend that you contact your insurance company prior to your appointment to understand what your coverage is for this test.
- To provide the best service and ensure the safety of your child, additional, young, unsupervised children should not accompany parents to the Ultrasound appointments. Safety practices limit the number of people in the testing room and young children are not to be left unsupervised while in the waiting room or lobby. This will also ensure you are available to assist your child during their test, if needed, which will result in better image outcomes.
- Arriving late may result in rescheduling your test.

### What will happen during the test:

- Your child will be placed on a bed on their tummy, and their clothes will need to be removed.
- This test may take approximately 30 minutes to complete.
- Warm gel will be placed on your child's lower back and buttocks region.
- A transducer will be placed on your child's lower back and buttocks region, and moved around during the test.
- The sonographer will take several images, and another sonographer may be present in the room to assist with the imaging documentation required.

### Instructions for after the test:

- Your child may resume their regular routine unless given other instructions.
- Your child's test will be reviewed and read by a Radiologist within the next 24 hours.
- The final signed report will be sent to the provider that ordered the test.
- Your child's test results will be available in their patient portal immediately after the provider reviews them. Their provider will discuss the results with you at their follow-up appointment. If your child does not have a follow-up appointment, their provider will contact you by letter or phone within five to seven business days.