MOLECULAR
DIAGNOSTICS AND THERAPY
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Understanding
Ultrasound Upper Abdomen with Pregnancy



What is Ultrasound Upper Abdomen with Pregnancy?

Ultrasound Upper Abdomen with Pregnancy is a non-invasive imaging examination that involves the evaluation of the organs in the upper abdomen in a pregnant woman. It might examine the liver, gallbladder, bile ducts, pancreas, spleen, and kidneys. Unlike other techniques, ultrasound does not employ ionising radiation and can be done when clinically necessary during pregnancy.

Why is it Performed?

This exam may be suggested if a pregnant patient has upper abdominal pain, GI symptoms, jaundice or other issues that need assessment of abdominal organs. It may be useful for the doctor to diagnose some abnormalities of the liver, gallbladder and bile ducts, pancreas, spleen or kidneys. Results are used together with the patient's symptoms, pregnancy history, examination, and other investigations to interpret the results.

Preparation

- Inform the ultrasound team about your pregnancy and gestational age.
- Inform the team about current medicines and medical conditions.
- Carry previous ultrasound scans, imaging, and laboratory reports.

Procedure

You will lie comfortably on the examination table. The ultrasound machine is used to get images by moving a clear gel over the top of the abdomen and pressing. During imaging you might need to move from one position to another or take a breath in and out a few times. The examination is carried out based on the clinical need and gestation related factors.

Important Instructions

- Maintain the recommended fasting period.
- Remain still during imaging.
- Inform staff if you feel uncomfortable.

Safety Precautions

Ultrasound does not use ionising radiation. It is used regularly when clinically required during pregnancy and postpartum. Before an exam, let the medical team know you are pregnant, as well as any medical conditions.

When to Seek Medical Attention?

Contact your health care professional if there is any unusual or persistent pain after the exam. Please talk with your doctor about concerns with symptoms, your pregnancy, medications, or follow-up. Ultrasound Upper Abdomen with Pregnancy is an existing diagnostic imaging procedure. Evaluations should be based on a skilled provider who evaluates the results alongside with medical history and other clinical factors. Throughout the examination, the support and guidance of Molecular Diagnostics and Therapy is provided.