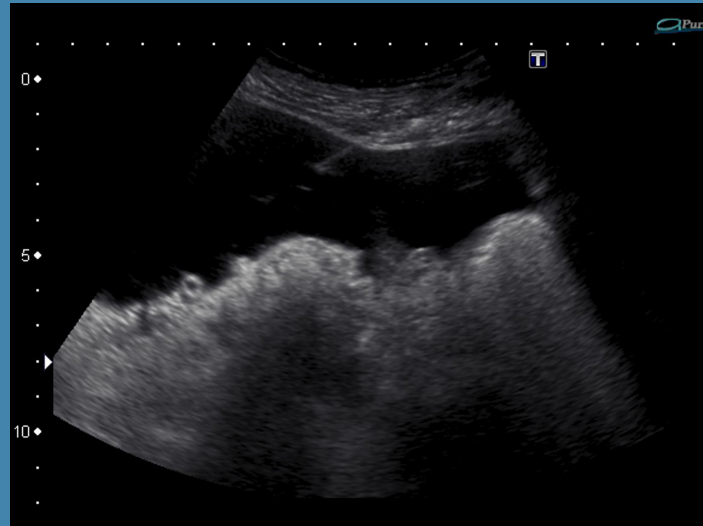


Ascites Drainage

How long will the procedure take?

An Ascites drainage procedure usually takes 30 minutes to complete. Patients may need to remain in the hospital for drainage and monitoring where large amounts of fluid are present.

Image of an Ascites Drainage



Ascites fluid (black region) within the abdomen, with a drainage needle (seen in white) entering the cavity from the top of the image.



If you have any related previous images from another provider please bring them on the day.

Disclaimer:

The information contained in this brochure is intended as a guide only. If patients require more specific information please contact your referring Doctor.

For more information contact:

Radiology Department
Swan Hill District Health
Swan Hill 3585
Ph: (03) 5033 9287

Publication Date: February 2013

Radiology



Swan Hill
District Health

my hospital

What is an ascities drainage?

Ascites is the accumulation of fluid in the abdominal cavity. The fluid is drained using ultrasound imaging as a guide.

Preparation

You will be asked to remove your clothes and wear a patient gown for the procedure.

You may be required to have a preliminary blood test to check your clotting factors

Procedure

You will be asked to lie on a bed for the examination.

Water-based gel is applied to your skin and an ultrasound probe (called a transducer) is placed on your abdomen and gently moved around to locate the site of the ascites.

If the scanning is performed over an area of tenderness, you may feel pressure or minor pain from the transducer.

You will be given an injection of local anaesthetic in your abdomen. A tube will then be inserted into your abdominal cavity to drain the ascites fluid. The duration of the drainage will depend on the amount of fluid in your abdominal cavity.

Depending on the amount of fluid to be drained, you may be sent to the Day Procedure Unit with the tube remaining in your abdomen.

You should allow yourself to rest after the procedure.

Risks of Procedure

There is a slight risk of infection from the procedure.

When large amounts of fluid are removed, the pressure in the abdomen will reduce, this can result in a drop in blood pressure. If this occurs, you will be monitored within the hospital for a number of hours following the procedure.