

# Endoanal Ultrasound Scan

## What Is An Endoanal Ultrasound?

Endoanal ultrasound is a specialised imaging test used to assess the muscles around your anus and rectum. This test provides detailed ultrasound images of the anal sphincter muscles and surrounding tissues, helping to diagnose conditions such as:

- **Faecal incontinence** (loss of bowel control)
- **Rectal prolapse**
- **Chronic constipation**
- **Obstructed defaecation syndrome (ODS)**
- **Anal abscesses and fistulas**

By identifying muscle damage, thinning, scarring, or structural issues, an endoanal ultrasound helps guide the most effective treatment plan for your condition.

## Do You Need Any Preparation Beforehand?

- No sedation or anaesthetic is required
- No laxatives or bowel preparation are needed
- The test is quick, painless, and minimally invasive

You can eat, drink, and continue with your normal activities before and after the test.

## What Does The Test Involve?

During the procedure, you will lie on an examination couch on your left side with your knees bent.

**The scanning process:**

- A small ultrasound probe, about the size of a finger, is gently inserted into the anus
- This provides real-time images of the anal sphincter muscles, surrounding tissues, and rectal walls
- The latest 3D ultrasound technology allows for highly detailed imaging, improving diagnostic accuracy
- The test is not painful but may feel slightly unusual

An endoanal ultrasound is often performed alongside anorectal physiology tests to gain a comprehensive understanding of your bowel function.

## What Can An Endoanal Ultrasound Detect?

This test is highly effective in diagnosing:

- **Muscle damage or thinning** (common after childbirth or surgery)
- **Anal sphincter weakness** (linked to incontinence)
- **Scarring from previous injuries or surgery**
- **Anal abscesses and fistulas** (deep infections and abnormal tunnels near the anus)
- **Structural abnormalities** that contribute to constipation or prolapse

By accurately identifying underlying issues, an endoanal ultrasound helps your consultant tailor the best treatment approach for you.

## What Happens After The Test?

- The entire procedure takes around 20-30 minutes
- You can go home immediately and resume normal activities

- The results are analysed by a specialist, and a full report is sent to your consultant

If any abnormalities are found, your consultant will discuss treatment options, which may include pelvic floor physiotherapy, medication, or surgical interventions if necessary.

## Why Choose The Midlands Bowel Clinic?

At Midlands Bowel Clinic, we offer:

- **Expert consultants** specialising in anorectal disorders and diagnostic imaging
- **State-of-the-art ultrasound technology**, including advanced 3D imaging for precise diagnosis
- **Personalised treatment plans** to help you regain bowel control and improve quality of life

## Contact Us

If you are experiencing faecal incontinence, rectal prolapse, chronic constipation, or unexplained anal discomfort, contact us today to book an assessment.