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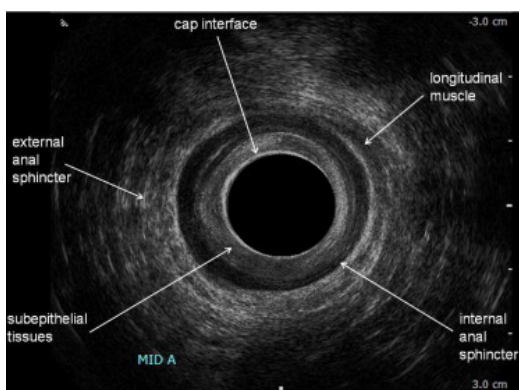
Gosford Private Hospital 5831517L

## Endoanal ultrasound scan

An Endoanal Ultrasound is a relatively new technique for the assessment of a variety of conditions including Faecal Incontinence, Fistula-in-ano, and sometimes the Pelvic Floor.

Some of the reasons your surgeon may recommend an Endoanal Ultrasound are to:

- Assess anal sphincter muscles in the case of Faecal Incontinence
- Assess anatomy of Fistula-in-ano
- Assess the pelvic floor and pelvic organ prolapse
- Assess a previous perineal tear during childbirth



An Endoanal Ultrasound is a minimally invasive procedure. It does not take long to perform, and is not painful (although it can be slightly uncomfortable for some).

This procedure enables your surgeon to gain valuable information about your condition and to come up with a comprehensive treatment plan for you

### **Upon arrival:**

When you arrive for your appointment you will be greeted by the Consultant Urogynaecologist who will talk with you about your birth and any symptoms you may have following your 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> degree perineal tear. You will have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have and discuss any concerns regarding the scan. The consultation will last approximately 30 minutes and the scan itself usually takes about 2 minutes.

### **The procedure:**

No special preparation is required for the scan.

The scan is performed in a quiet and private room, with either Dr De Lacavalerie on her own or a female nurse present to provide support. You will be made comfortable lying down on your left.

A narrow ultrasound probe, about the width of a finger, is gently inserted about 2-3cm into the anal canal (back passage) so that the anal sphincter muscle (ring around the anus) can be visualised, examined and assessed. The scan will be video and then images will be printed for your confidential medical notes. This will then be forwarded with your consent to your general medical practitioner and other specialists on your request.

The scan should not be painful but maybe a little uncomfortable. If performed at the specialist rooms as no sedation is given, you may drive afterwards if you wish. If the scan is performed on same day of your colonoscopy in hospital then follow post op instructions after your scope.

### **What is the benefit of having an endoanal scan?**

The main benefit of the scan is that your consultant gets a clear view of the muscle structure and evidence that everything has healed correctly when an injury like a perineal tear has occurred.

### **What are the risks and side effects of the scan**

The scan is safe and should not be painful.

If you are allergic to latex you should inform the consultant conducting the scan so that a latex free probe cover can be used.

### **Following the procedure**

After the procedure, the results of the scan will be explained to you. This information will allow the consultant to plan any further treatment with you or, if the scan is normal, provide you with reassurance.

If you had this procedure after a childbirth perineal tear there will also be an opportunity for you to discuss any long term implications of the tear and their management as well as the likelihood of experiencing similar problems in future pregnancies.

### **Future pregnancies**

If you have another baby you will need to seek advice from your Consultant Obstetrician at around 16 weeks gestation or later as advised by your midwife or Obstetric Consultant. At this appointment you can discuss your previous birth and the method of delivery that is best for you and your baby for the current pregnancy. We may need to repeat your endoanal ultrasound and or anal manometry if it is been long since your last assessment or if you have developed new bowel symptoms

Please see header for relevant contact details if you have any further questions