**FOI Ref: 6085**

**Category(ies):Clinical - Service Activity**

**Subject: Ultrasound**

**Date Received: 08/11/2021**

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| **Your request:** | **Our response:** |
| 1. For what symptoms would a trans-vaginal ultrasound be indicated? | TV USS is used for many gynaecological symptoms, and is offered when the clinical information required cannot be obtained from scanning transabdominally.  Examples, ovarian cysts, post-menopausal bleeding, uterine anomaly, position of an IUD, abnormal uterine bleeding.  It is also used in the early pregnancy setting for early pregnancy complications i.e. ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage.  It is used for placental localization in the third trimester.  It is used to measure cervical length in pregnancy between 16-24 weeks if cervical incompetency is suspected. |
| 1. Are there any groups of people a trans-vaginal ultrasound would not be carried out on?   If so, why would they not be indicated? | Anyone who declines a transvaginal scan  Women who are not sexually active  Women who cannot tolerate a transvaginal examination |
| 1. Does trust policy indicate that it is allowed to carry out trans-vaginal ultrasounds on those who have never been sexually active before?   If no, what is defined as sexual activity? | No  The department (ultrasound) guidelines state the following:  Exceptions to (TV) scanning include;   * Virgo intacta * Children * Patients with severe vaginismus, if known. * If patient declines consent (although prior to this stage the Sonographer should have explained to the patient that in most cases TA scan can be less sensitive for the detection of gynecological pathology).   Sexual active is defined as when a women has had had vaginal intercourse. |