



Exact Radiology  
CLINICS

# 3D/4D PREGNANCY ULTRASOUND

If you have chosen to have a diagnostic morphology scan at 18-22 weeks of pregnancy with Exact Radiology Clinics, we are able to offer you the opportunity to return later in your pregnancy to see your baby for the first time in real-time 3D, or 4D as it is known.

## What is a 4D Pregnancy Ultrasound?

Rather than a traditional 2D (two dimensional) image of the unborn foetus, Exact Radiology Clinics provide the option of having a 4D ultrasound to allow parents to see their unborn baby in a manner that will make much more sense to them. Instead of simply showing the shape of the foetus, 3D images show the unique features of your baby. The quality of the images is variable and subject to the baby's position, size and amount of fluid around it etc at the time of the scan. During your scan you are able to watch your baby move in real time (4D).

Depending on your baby's position and level of co-operation at the time of the scan, you may see your baby sucking its fingers, moving its arms and legs, changing position, wiggling its fingers and toes and occasionally kicking and stretching. Often facial expressions such as tongue poking, yawning and smiling can be seen. Please inform the Sonographer if you have decided that you do not want to know the sex of your baby before they commence scanning. 4D ultrasounds are performed in the same way as normal obstetric ultrasounds and generally take about 30 minutes.

## When should I have my 4D Pregnancy Ultrasound?

The best time to make an appointment for your 4D pregnancy ultrasound in order to obtain the best images of your baby is at 26-28 weeks but the scan can be performed anytime between 25 and 30 weeks. This is the time when the baby is sitting relatively high in the womb and there is usually plenty of amniotic fluid around the baby which we use as a window to view it.

## How do I prepare for my 4D Pregnancy Ultrasound?

The preparation for this scan will be explained to you by our friendly staff when you make your appointment.

## How much does my 4D Pregnancy Ultrasound cost?

A doctor's referral is not needed as the procedure is non-diagnostic but this also means that it is not rebateable by Medicare or your private health fund. Therefore you will incur a fee, which will be discussed with you at the time of booking your appointment.

The following will be provided:

- A copy of both black & white & colour (golden tones) images taken during your scan.
- A CD containing the scan images.

As the 4D ultrasound is not a medical test no report will be provided that gives details about the baby's growth, weight or position as would normally be the case. If your doctor is eager to know this information and would like us to assess the baby's well-being, we are happy to do this at another appointment. Your doctor would of course need to provide a referral for the scan in this case and you should check that it is covered by Medicare as there are limitations to the number of scans during the third trimester.

If you are interested in having a 4D Pregnancy Ultrasound at Exact Radiology Clinics, please make an appointment with our friendly reception staff at our Women's Imaging Clinics.

*[Last Updated: 17/08/2010]*