

Ultrasound in Pregnancy

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC) recently developed a fact sheet, which provides answers to commonly asked questions pregnant women may have about ultrasound:

- What is an ultrasound?
- How does ultrasound work?
- Why is an ultrasound done?
- What will happen during the ultrasound?
- What can an ultrasound find?
- Does a normal ultrasound mean I will have a healthy baby?
- Is ultrasound safe?
- What are the benefits of ultrasound?



It should be noted that the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada and Health Canada have produced guidelines on diagnostic ultrasound. They state that ultrasound **should not be used** for any of these reasons:

- to have a picture of the baby, solely for non-medical reasons.
- to learn the sex of the baby, solely for non-medical reasons.
- for commercial use, such as trade shows or making videos of a baby.

To view/download the fact sheet developed by SOGC, visit: <http://www.sogc.org>.

For more information about ultrasound, visit these websites:

1. Health Canada: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca> (It's Your Health Fact Sheet – titled "Fetal Ultrasound for Keepsake Videos").
2. Canadian Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers: <http://www.csdms.com>.