

## **PREGNANCY LIMITED ULTRASOUND**

**OVERVIEW:** The sonographer examines the fetal heart rate (FHR), placental location, cervix, fetal position, and amniotic fluid index (AFI)

**PREPARATION:** For this exam, the patient needs to drink 16 ounces of water 1 hour prior to the exam. Patient cannot void until AFTER the exam.

Filling the bladder prior to the exam aids in the visualization of the placenta in relation to the cervix.

This test can rule out and diagnose a number of problems such as (not limited to):

- Fetal presentation-breech, transverse, vertex
- Determine if there is cervical incompetence/shortening
- Diagnose placenta previa or abruption
- Confirm viable fetal heart rate
- Examine for a cause of vaginal bleeding >14 weeks. (Prior to 14 weeks-please see Early OB)
- Determine the amount of amniotic fluid by measuring 4 quadrants of the gravid uterus and giving an Amniotic Fluid Index (AFI)

The reason for the test will depend on your symptoms.

**THIS ULTRASOUND WILL TAKE ABOUT 20-40 MINUTES AND THE REPORT WILL BE BACK TO YOUR ORDERING PHYSICIAN WITHIN 24-48 HOURS.**