

For more information
please call your provider.

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Automated Breast Ultrasound System

(ABUS)



Ultrasound uses sound waves to form images. With an Automated Breast Ultrasound System (ABUS), the system creates clear 3D images of your breast. It is a safe procedure that does not use radiation.

Should I Have This Test?

Your doctor may recommend an ABUS if you have dense breasts. This test helps doctors find cancers that may hide in dense breast tissue on a mammogram.

What Does It Mean If I Have Dense Breasts?

Breasts are considered dense if they are mostly fibrous or glandular (glan-juh-ler) tissue, without much fat.

- Glandular tissue is made up of milk ducts and glands.
- Fibrous tissue supports the breast.
- Fat fills in the spaces between the other tissues.

About 2 out of every 5 women have dense breasts. Increased breast density slightly increases your risk of getting breast cancer.

What Happens During This Test?

- You will be asked to put on a gown and lie comfortably on a bed.
- Lotion will be put on your breast.
- The scanner will be positioned firmly against the breast. It gently flattens the breast tissue and keeps it from moving while the images are taken.
- Images will be taken of each breast.

The entire test takes about 15 minutes. After the test, you can go home and back to your normal activities.

How Will I Get the Results?

A Radiologist will look at the ultrasound images, along with those from your mammogram. When looked at together, these screenings give valuable information. You will receive the results by mail, on your mySanfordchart or from your primary care provider.

Is This Test Covered By Insurance?

Insurance plans differ, but many plans cover portions of this test. Call your insurance company and ask if your plan covers automated breast ultrasound.