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ENDOANAL ULTRASOUND

What is this?

This is a specific ultrasound to examine the rectum and anus. The ultrasound probe is inserted into the anal canal. The probe is about the size of a finger.

When is it performed?

There are a number of conditions that are examined with anal ultrasound:

- 1. Faecal incontinence to look at the sphincter muscles
- 2. Rectal and anal cancer
- 3. Anal fistula
- 4. Anal abscess
- 5. Perianal Crohn's disease

Where is it performed?

The procedure is performed at Westmead Public Hospital (in the clinic or theatre) or at Westmead Private Hospital (in theatre)

Do I need any preparation?

No unless another procedure is being performed at the same time such as colonoscopy or surgery.

Am I asleep?

The procedure can be done either awake or asleep.

Is it painful?

The procedure is not painful unless there are other painful anal conditions present such as an anal fissure or infection. If it is painful in the awake patient the procedure will be stopped.

When do I get the results?

The same day.

What is the follow up?

You will be given details.