

Explanation of “Transabdominal” vs “Pelvic trans-abdominal” vs “Pelvic Transvaginal” Ultrasound studies.

Transabdominal Ultrasounds can be of two different types.

Complete abdominal ultrasound is indicated by CPT codes from 76801-76812

This includes a full exam of your upper and mid abdomen and organs such as gall bladder/ liver/ stomach etc.

WE DO NOT PERFORM THIS STUDY AT OUR FACILITY SINCE WE ARE A GYN (WOMEN’S HEALTH) FACILITY.

Full Pelvic Ultrasound is a two part study as listed below.

1. Pelvic abdominal ultrasound.

The CPT code for this is 76856.

This is a part of a full pelvic ultrasound which includes visualization of the lower abdomen from the lower part of the abdomen and includes evaluation of uterus/ bladder and any other additional masses (if present) from the lower abdominal angle.

This is important to view the pelvic organs from above and identify any conditions that might not be visible if we only did a vaginal study. This is specially important if you have had previous abdominal surgeries such as myomectomies, cesarean sections etc. which might cause scarring and cause the uterus to be stuck to the abdominal wall.

This is also important in case you do not want a vaginal sonogram due to pain, religious reasons or if you are too young (see below).

2. Pelvic transvaginal ultrasound.

The CPT code for this is 76830

This is the second component of the full pelvic ultrasound. In this study, a vaginal probe is used to evaluate the uterus/ ovaries/ adnexal masses etc from the vagina.

Both the above studies are needed to a full pelvic evaluation and each are indicated by a separate CPT code hence billed separately since they are separate studies with different probes.

WE HAVE TO PERFORM BOTH OF THE ABOVE STUDIES TO COMPLETELY EVALUATE THE PELVIS.

Situations in which we may not do a Transvaginal sonogram:

- If you have never had vaginal intercourse (virgin).
- If you are actively bleeding from the vagina.
- If you are pregnant and you have placenta previa.

3D ultrasound (CPT- 76377) is done in addition if there are any masses, fibroids, IUD or any uterine pathology.

A Color Doppler (CPT-93975) is done in addition if there is pelvic pain/ ovarian cyst/ mass/ tumor etc.

Hope this helps clarify your concerns. We are happy to give you a CD with all the images and also a finalized report. Please note that the finalized report can take upto 10 days.

Sincerely

Walk IN GYN Team.