

Fertility & Midwifery Care Center



Ultrasound Follicle Series Evaluation

The use of ultrasound to assess ovulation function is a powerful tool in our approach to infertility management. It allows us to track the development of a dominant follicle within the ovary, comparing that development to the information represented in your **Creighton Model FertilityCare™** menstrual chart. Furthermore, it allows us to assess the thickness of the uterine lining, the endometrium, which is critical to successful implantation of a newly formed embryo. We also use the ultrasound follicle series to assess the response to ovulation inducing medications.

Typically, we perform the initial scan between cycle days 6-10. Depending on the findings of this initial scan we will repeat the study in 3-7 days. Our goal is to observe the follicle develop to approximately 2.0 centimeters in average diameter. Each cycle we use ultrasound follicle series we become better at predicting the development of the follicle based on experience from the previous cycle. As a result, while we may perform four studies the initial cycle, by the third cycle it may only require a single study.

Following each ultrasound study Dr. Stroud or Dr. Martin will review the findings with Lea Oberhausen, our certified **FertilityCare™** practitioner. Lea will discuss the findings with you while you are in the office or she will contact you by phone that evening or the next day. She will help you arrange the appropriate follow up study and answer any questions you may have about the management plan for that cycle. There is a nominal charge for the interpretation of the study and the related decision-making.

We recognize the potential financial impact of your fertility treatment and do all that we can to keep costs at a minimum. We submit the charges for the ultrasound study and the interpretation to your insurance company and find in many cases the fees are covered. However, if it is denied or treated as an “uncovered service,” you will be responsible for the cost of the study and interpretation. The total charge is **\$125.00**, (\$95 for the ultrasound and \$30 for the interpretation and follow up planning) representing a significant discount off the complete pelvic ultrasound fee of \$418.00. If in advance you request that we **not** bill your insurance company you may pay a discounted fee of **\$100** at the time of service. This discount applies only to the limited ultrasound follicle series when paid at the time of service and not a complete pelvic ultrasound study.