Your Doctor has requested you to have an obstetric morphology scan, usually performed between 18-20 weeks. This is considered a routine part of your obstetric care to check baby’s development. The images are in real time so movement and heart beat of the baby will be observed.

The purpose of this test is to assess:
- Age of pregnancy
- Baby’s physical development
- Position of placenta & volume of fluid around baby

It will be necessary to fill your bladder for this test as it lifts baby into a better position for scanning, and it allows visualization of the cervix and lower uterus.

You will be asked to lie down and a probe coupled with clear hypoallergenic gel will be run across your abdomen to obtain the images required. Measurements of the head, abdomen and thigh bone are done to confirm age and uniform development. You will be able to watch the image during the scan.

*Note*: unfortunately not all defects can be detected such as some chromosomal abnormalities.

Often the sex of the baby can be seen though sometimes it is obscured.

A 3D or 4D scan is not routinely performed but if you wish to organise this, it is best between 24-30wks gestation.

If you bring young children with you we request an accompanying adult to supervise them.