

A Word about 2-D, 3-D and even 4-D ultrasound

2-D prenatal ultrasound provides important information to our doctors about your baby's development, growth, and well-being throughout your pregnancy, from your first trimester through your due date if necessary. The advantages of 3-D ultrasound are still under investigation and presently provide no proven diagnostic value when imaging your baby. 2-D ultrasound is still the gold standard of care in obstetrical exams.

Factors that affect how well your baby is seen on 2-D exams, such as baby's position, baby's age, baby's movements, and maternal size have an even greater effect on 3-D images and can contribute to the uncertain accuracy of 3-D exams.

And while "4-D" ultrasound is a 3-D image in motion, the term "4-D" is really only a "marketing term". The fact is, the FDA strictly prohibits the use of obstetrical ultrasound for entertainment purposes.

OB/GYN Associates provides two AIUM accredited labs and ARDMS certified Sonographers who have met the educational standards and have many years of clinical experience. Our state of the art equipment has accurate 2-D imaging, and 3-D imaging when appropriate. While 2-D exams will be necessary for all exams ordered by our doctors, 3-D imaging of the face, gender, and limbs can be incorporated into the exam, as the Sonographer is able to on babies', 24-32 weeks gestation.

We as your OB/Gyn care provider are aware of how important that first glimpse of your baby's face can be, as parents and unborn baby bond through a picture for the first time. We hope this answers some of your questions about 2-D and 3-D sonograms. We are dedicated to providing you with the state of the art ultrasound examinations during your obstetrical care.