

# Cromwell Medical Centre BREAKING NEWS!



Cromwell Medical Centre  
GP Scan Clinic  
*Better Care Using Ultra Sound Technology*

**Cromwell Medical Centre is leading innovation in general practice by introducing a new Ultrasound Service.**

The GP Scan Clinic, which is part of the Centre, has recently purchased an Ultrasound Machine.

It is believed that this Ultrasound service is the first of its type provided by a private medical centre in the South Island. Dr. Pragati Gautama says "many patients will be familiar with pregnancy ultrasound but ultrasound is a rapidly growing field in emergency medicine, critical care and general practice. Being able to make a fast diagnosis, eliminating unnecessary X-rays will, I am sure, be great for our patients."

## How can Clinician Performed Ultrasound help patients?

- Foreign body detection e.g. a wood splinter
- Detection of injuries such as ligament tears, fractures
- Treatment e.g. putting in drains or nerve blocks.
- Difficult intravenous access
- Heart monitoring
- Pregnancy - help rule out conditions such as ectopic pregnancy or breech presentation.
- Detection of conditions such as gall stones, deep vein thrombosis.
- Detection of chest complaints for example pneumonia or fractured ribs.
- Eye problems like retinal detachment or lens dislocation.



## What is different about Clinician Performed Ultrasound?

Ultrasound is an additional tool to provide faster diagnosis and treatment for patients. Cromwell Medical Centre doctors are appropriately trained and qualified to provide this type of Ultrasound. However it does not replace the "formal" Ultrasound carried out by a trained Ultrasonographer or Radiologist.



## Who is on the GP Scan Clinic Team?

The formation of the GP scan clinic team was led by two of Cromwell Medical Centres GPs, Dr. Mary Holden and Dr. Pragati Gautama. Both of these Doctors have completed extensive training in Clinician Performed Ultrasound.

Dr. Mary Holden performs Musculoskeletal Ultra Sound and continues to attend courses in this field. Dr. Holden's area of interest is Sports and Occupational Medicine. She believes that providing quality diagnostic information to her patients will greatly help them manage their own recovery by making the best decisions.

Dr. Pragati Gautama has completed post graduate certificates in Echocardiology and Ultrasound. A self confessed "ultrasound geek", Pragati has gained qualifications in this area and believes that ultrasound will develop into an important aspect of acute clinical care.

## Big benefits for the Cromwell Community

Dr. Mary Holden says "the value to the community is immense. Not only in terms of improved patient care but for example, if a patient is cleared of immediate life threatening injuries and a helicopter is no longer required, that is a saving of time and money and a much better outcome for the patient. In other cases patients may be able to be referred directly to a surgeon and not require an MRI."

She goes on to say "our new ultrasound capability complements Cromwell Medical Centre's 24 hour, seven day a week service and it is ideal to have this type of asset held at the Centre."

## Make an Appointment

For all health concerns, make an appointment to see one of the friendly staff at the Centre. To make an appointment, telephone us on 03 445 1119. Your doctor will discuss whether Clinician Performed Ultrasound can help you.



PHONE 111 IN EMERGENCIES  
Ph/Fax 03 445 1119 (24 Hours)  
On Call Doctor 027 645 9992

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