

ULTRASOUND PROTOCOLS



Reviewed: 1/5/2026; 1/10/2025; 01/11/2024; 01/12/23; 01/29/22; 10/30/20

Biophysical Profile (BPP) Ultrasound Protocol Guideline

Indication	Oligohydramnios, decreased fetal movement
Prep	Full Bladder. Have patient drink 32 oz water, finishing 60 minutes before scan time
Procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Duration of exam should last 30 minutes (for each fetus in multiple gestations) unless all criteria are observed in less amount of time.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Fetal breathing – 30 seconds of sustained fetal breathing○ Gross body movement – at least 3 episodes of movement involving the trunk or limbs○ Fetal tone – at least 1 episode of limb flexion to extension and return to flexion. Opening and closing of hand counts as evidence of fetal tone.○ Amniotic fluid evaluation – calculate AFI and document fluid pocket with at least 1cm depth in two different planes • Include estimated fetal weight (EFW) if one has not been performed within the last 2 weeks<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ BPD, HC, AC, FL • Document fetal heart rate – preferably with M-Mode