

# Children's kidney and bladder scan

Department of Nuclear Medicine

Information for Patients

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## What is a renogram scan?

This scan is also known as a renogram plus cystogram. It is a test to see how well your child's kidneys and bladder empty.

It also checks to see if their wee (urine) is travelling from their bladder back up to their kidneys (reflux).

**If you cannot attend this appointment please call 0116 258 5627.**

### We need to know if your child:

- has any problems holding their wee (incontinence). This is because radioactive substances will be present in their wee (urine) and you may need special instructions because of this. For babies or toddlers who are still in nappies, there is extra information later on in this leaflet.
- needs an interpreter, **please tell us at least 3 days before you appointment.**

## What do I need to do before the scan?

- You do not need to do anything before the scan.
- Your child can eat as normal and take their usual medicines.
- It helps if they are well hydrated. Encourage them to drink a little extra before their visit.

**Health information and support is available at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)  
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit [www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk) for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals  
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact [InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk)

## When you arrive

- We will explain the test and you will be able to ask questions.
- We will need to weigh your child so we can give them the right dose in their injection.

**All children over the age of 10 will be asked if they have started having periods yet. If the answer is 'yes' they will then be asked if there is any chance that they could be pregnant, and if they are breastfeeding. This might seem odd, but it is because of the radiation and is required by law.**

- We will need to insert a fine plastic tube (a cannula) into 1 of your child's veins to give the injection. If your child is over 12 months old, we can use a special cream (ametop) with a clear dressing or cold spray to numb the area where the injection will be given.
- Inserting a cannula can be difficult and will need staff to hold your child still for some time. Please bear with us while we do this. You may find that your appointment takes longer or has been delayed. Children can find this experience a bit scary. Please allow plenty of time for your appointment.

## What happens next?

- Once the cannula is in you will have a short time to relax in the waiting area while the radioactive medicine is drawn up for your child. We will need your child to either go to the toilet or have a fresh nappy change before we take them in to the camera room.
- When they are ready we will ask your child to come in to the camera room. This is where they can choose a movie to watch while we take pictures of their tummy. The radioactive injection is then given to your child through the cannula while they lay on the imaging couch.
- From this point, your child is now radioactive. We may give you some gloves to use for nappy changes during your stay.

**Please note:** Due to a lack of space, we will usually only invite 1 parent or carer into the room. Our play specialist will be able to help and support you while the injection is being given to your child.

## What happens during the scan?

- Images are taken using a gamma camera. Your child will need to lie on a bed for 30 minutes while we take images. It is important that they stay still. You can be next to your child during the scan. We can provide plenty of distraction to try and make it as pleasant as possible.
- After this, we will need to take images of your child having a wee. This means that they will need to use a potty or bed pan set up in front of the camera. We will put up a screen for privacy, and you will be able to help if needed.

## What happens after the scan?

Your child will be radioactive after their injection for the next 24 hours. To reduce any risk to them and others we ask you to:

- encourage your child to drink plenty of extra fluids.
- flush the toilet well after use. Boys should sit down when going for a wee.
- make sure that your child washes their hands well each time they use the toilet.

If your child wears nappies, we will give you gloves to wear during nappy changes. You will need to do this for the rest of the day. Please also make sure that you wipe your child well and wash your hands well after each nappy change. You will then need to store the nappies, wipes and gloves for 2 days before your bins are emptied by the council. Using an outdoor bin is fine, as long as it is not due to be emptied within this time period.

## Are there any risks?

- It is very unlikely that your child will have any side effects from the radioactive injection.
- The dose of radiation your child will receive is less than the dose they would receive from the environment in about 4 months.
- Ionising radiation can cause cancer after many years or decades. The risk of having cancer from this scan is less than 0.1%, which is low. For comparison, the natural lifetime cancer incidence in the general population is about 50%.

In all cases the benefit your child will get from having their scan is greater than the small risk from being exposed from radiation.

## How will I get the results of the scan?

The scan will be looked at by a doctor who specialises in scans. The results passed on to your child's consultant. The doctor will talk to you about the results at your child's next outpatient appointment.

## Useful information

You may wish to bring a relative or friend with you. Due to the nature of the examination, friends and relatives will not be allowed into the room during the procedure.

Please do not bring other children with you to your child's appointment. Radiation is more dangerous for children and pregnant women than for adults. So, please do not to bring them into the Nuclear Medicine Department unless they are coming for a scan.

If you need hospital transport, please see our website [www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk) or call TASL on 0345 241 3012 at least 3 days before your appointment.

## Directions to Nuclear Medicine

Leicester Royal Infirmary - Level 0, Sandringham Building (behind the multi-storey car park).  
Glenfield Hospital - the department is best reached via the east entrance.

## Contact details

For specific information about your child's test, please contact (answering machine checked during office hours):

Leicester Royal Infirmary: 0116 258 5627

Leicester Radiopharmacy Service: 0116 258 5579

If you have a question about your child's medical condition please contact your GP or the doctor who made the referral.

## Useful websites

[www.bnms.org.uk/](http://www.bnms.org.uk/)

[www.radiologyinfo.org/](http://www.radiologyinfo.org/)

[patient.info/](http://patient.info/)

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔  
على هذه المعلومات بلغةٍ أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل

જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

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