



You will meet your radiographer in the nuclear medicine prep room.

We need to put a sparkly medicine (dye) into your body. This will probably be by an injection.



The sparkly medicine will go to the part of your body which is being examined and when we take pictures on the nuclear medicine camera, it will show up on the computer.



You need to lie still on the bed so that your pictures aren't blurry.



You can watch a DVD when you are lying on the bed.

FACTS ABOUT NUCLEAR MEDICINE



- Nuclear Medicine uses a special dye or 'sparkly medicine' which can only be seen with a special camera.

- The dye is radioactive. This means that atoms in the dye have too much energy. They get rid of their energy in bursts called gamma rays. You can't feel or see gamma rays and you won't glow in the dark!

- Our camera has a big crystal inside of it which can detect and take images of the gamma rays inside you.

- Radioactivity is all around us - it comes from the sun, from some types of rocks and even from bananas!



Come for your Nuclear Medicine Scan

Direct Nuclear Cystogram

At The Imaging Department

Place Royal Hospital for Children and Young People
Little France
Edinburgh
EH16 4SA



SCAN and Find more
information about
Scans and X-rays



Information for parents and carers -

What is a **Direct Nuclear Cystogram**?

This is a test that looks at the bladder, and checks for reflux from the bladder back up to the kidneys. A small dose of radioactive liquid is injected into a vein, which will allow us to take pictures of the body. The small risk from the test is outweighed by the information gained by the scan. A doctor will have checked the request to make sure this is the best test to undergo.

What will the test involve?

When you arrive you will meet the radiographer and radiography assistant. They will explain the test, and there will be an opportunity to ask questions. Your child will then have an ultrasound scan to see if the bladder is full enough.

Once their bladder is full your child will lie on the bed, and you will be asked to cuddle them to distract them. A cold spray will be used to numb their tummy before a small needle is inserted through the skin into the bladder. A small amount of radioactive liquid will be injected. The needle is then taken out and the bed will be moved over the camera for the pictures to be taken. They can watch a video or DVD while we do this.

You can stay with your child during the test, and help to keep them still. It will take about 5 minutes to take the first pictures, we will then ask your child to use a special toilet to empty their bladder, while we take more pictures.

Will the test hurt?

Your child will not feel any discomfort from the radioactive liquid or imaging process. However an injection is necessary for this examination. The needle used for the injection is very small, and will only be in for a very short time. The cold "magic" spray will help to reduce any discomfort.

How long will it take?

The length of time that you will have to spend in the department will depend on how quickly your child's bladder fills. Once your child's bladder is full this test will take 15 minutes.

How will I get the results of the test?

The result will be sent to the doctor who asked for this test, normally within 7-10 days. The doctor who has asked for the test will then send you a follow-up appointment to discuss your results with them.

What Preparation is required ?

A full bladder is required for this scan. Your child should drink enough liquid before the appointment to ensure they have a full bladder.

This test involves giving your child a small injection into their bladder. We will use a cold spray to numb the skin, which will be applied immediately before the injection. Once the test is over you will be able to leave the department and can return to nursery or school.

Precautions if you are pregnant or breast feeding. If you are pregnant, it would be best if someone else could accompany you and your child for the test. We would recommend avoiding close contact (prolonged cuddles) for 24 hours after administration of the radioactivity. Breast feeding can continue as normal. If you plan to accompany your child during a scan and are pregnant or suspect you may be pregnant, please inform us in advance.

What if my child is taking medication?

Do not stop taking any prescribed medications. The scan will not affect the usefulness of the drug. **However, if your child currently has or gets a urine tract infection (UTI) between now and the examination please call the Imaging Department on 0131 312 0896 as we may need to rearrange the appointment. If you have any questions about this please contact the department.**

What if I do not speak English?

If you need help with the English language please phone **0131 312 0896** as soon as possible and we can arrange an interpreter for you.

For more information about the Imaging Department and your scan.

Please visit www.children.nhslothian.scot/the-rhcyp

You can scan the QR code on the front of this leaflet.

How do I get to Nuclear Medicine.

Nuclear Medicine Department is in the Imaging Department on the ground floor. Book in for your appointment at the Imaging Department reception.

Public Transport and Travel Information.

Bus details available from:

Lothian Buses on 0131 555 6363 or www.lothianbuses.co.uk

Traveline Scotland on 08712 002 233 or www.travelinescotland.com

Train details available from:

National Rail Enquiries on 03457 484 950 or www.nationalrail.co.uk

Keeping your appointment - If you cannot keep your appointment, or have been given one that is unsuitable, please change it by phoning the number on your appointment letter. Your call will give someone else the chance to be seen and will help us keep waiting times to a minimum.