

Your Cystogram explained (NMCUI)

Please read this patient information carefully as it contains information on preparing for the scan

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Aim of the patient information

This patient information is for patients having a Cystogram and aims to tell you what a Cystogram is and what will happen.

General information

A doctor has asked that we take some pictures of your kidneys.

If the appointment clashes with another outpatient appointment or test, or you are unable to attend on this day, please contact this department as soon as possible. We can then reschedule the test and assign the appointment to another patient.

As the test involves small amounts of radiation, we ask that you are **not** accompanied by children under 18 or anyone who may be pregnant. You may bring one adult with you to the department.

If you have mobility issues, are incontinent or claustrophobic please contact the department on the number provided.

Benefit and risks of the test

Everyone receives some radiation every day from the radioactivity in the air, food we eat and even from space. The amount of radiation in a nuclear medicine test is similar to your natural exposure over one year so the risks associated with it are low.

The main benefit of the test is making the correct diagnosis, so you can get the treatment that is right for you. This benefit is far greater than the small risk from radiation.

What does the test involve?

Part 1

The test involves lying on a bed over the camera (see picture) before being given a small injection of a radioactive tracer into one of the veins in your hands or arms. There should be no ill effects from the injection. As soon as the injection has been given, pictures are taken continuously for 30 minutes to produce a cine film of the kidneys working. It is important to avoid any blurring of the pictures and so you must lie as still as possible whilst they are taken.

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