

Let's Talk About...

Lasix Renal Scan

What is a lasix renal scan?

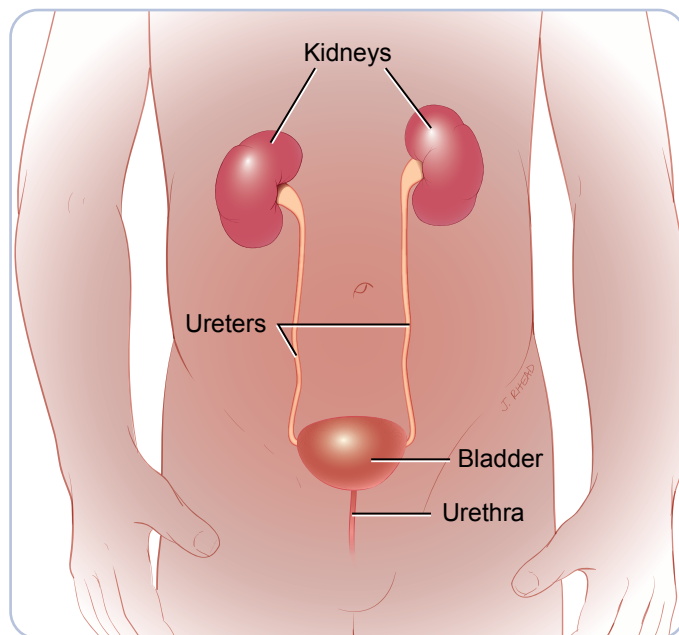
A lasix renal scan is a nuclear medicine test that shows how well the kidneys are working and draining. The kidneys filter and clean the blood, then remove waste products into the urine (pee). Urine flows out of the kidneys, through the ureters, into the bladder and leaves the body through the urethra. This pathway for urine is called the urinary [yur-in-air-ee] system.

What will happen?

First your child will change into a hospital gown. The technologist will place a small tube called an IV (intravenous) into a vein usually in your child's arm or hand. Your child will receive medicine through the IV.

Some children will also have a tube placed into the bladder, called a catheter. The technologist will clean the opening where urine comes out with an antibacterial soap. Then, a small tube will be placed through this opening and into the bladder. This may feel slightly uncomfortable. Some children say they feel a pinch. Others say it feels like they need to pee.

As the scan begins, your child will receive a small amount of radioactive medicine through the IV. The technologist will place a special camera close to your child. This camera watches and takes a picture of the medicine as it travels through the kidneys, bladder, and other parts of the urinary system. The technologist will also take pictures as the bladder empties. This test will take about 1 hour. After all the pictures are taken, the technologist will remove the IV and catheter. If your child has a VCUG (another urinary system test) scheduled for the same day, the catheter will stay in place until after that test.



How should I prepare my child?

There is no special preparation for this test. If your child is old enough to understand, it may help to talk with them about the test at home before coming to the hospital. Tell your child it is important for them to stay still during the test and let them know that you will be with them. You may bring a favorite blanket or small toy. If your child is an infant, bring a pacifier or bottle. For more information on preparing your child for this test, the Medical Imaging Child Life Specialist can be reached at 801-662-3701.

Checking in for the appointment

Please arrive at the Radiology Department 15 minutes before your scheduled test time. It is on the first floor of the main hospital building.

Are there any possible problems after the test?

After this test your child's urine may look pink and it might sting when they pee for a couple of days. If either of these last for more than 1 or 2 days, please call your child's doctor. The radiation from this test is very small and will be gone from your child's body within 24 hours.

Test Results

A pediatric radiologist will look at all the pictures from the test and send a report to your child's doctor. Your child's doctor will call you to review and explain the test results within 2 to 4 days. If there are serious or unexpected findings, your child's doctor will be told before you leave the Radiology Department.

Questions for my doctor

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