

YOUR CHILD'S MAG3 RENOGRAM SCAN EXPLAINED

- **What is a MAG3 Renogram?**

It is a special scan that obtains a series of images of the kidneys over a period of 30 minutes that can demonstrate how well the kidneys are working and if they are draining properly into the bladder.

- **What does it involve?**

It will involve a small drip needle to be put into a vein in their arm. Once in place we will get your child to lie on the bed with the camera underneath them, then when ready the radiographer will inject a small amount of radioactive liquid through the drip needle. The scan begins straight away and takes 30 minutes to complete. In some cases a second injection is given 5 minutes after the first through the same drip needle which will make your child want to wee more. After the 30 minutes in some cases the test will be over and you can go home. But in other cases a further series of pictures will be taken as your child sits on a potty and has a wee, then you will be able to go home.

- **Will the injection hurt?**

We will give you a time to arrive before the injection when we will put on some anaesthetic cream which takes between ½ to 1 hour to work. Then when it is time for the injection they should feel nothing and there are no side effects from it. Also as we put a drip needle in both of the injections are given through the one needle.

It is therefore very important to attend promptly within the department to make sure that the anaesthetic cream has enough time to work properly.

- **Is there any preparation for the scan?**

Not really, but if possible get your child to have more to drink than normal prior to the appointment time, or even bring a drink with you to have while the anaesthetic cream works. Also as the scan takes 30 minutes to help pass the time it may be helpful to bring their favourite toy or a book to read.

- **What about the radiation?**

The amount of radiation injected is carefully calculated according to your child's bodyweight, and is only a very small amount.

However after the scan where possible encourage your child to drink more than normal to help flush the radioactive fluid out of their system. It is also important to change their nappies as soon as they are wet or for them to go to the toilet more frequently to get rid of the radioactive fluid as it passes into the urine.