

Please inform a staff member if you:

- **Are pregnant or a nursing mother**
- Are claustrophobic
- Require the results sent by a specific time or method to your doctor

Additional Information

Remember to remain still while you are being imaged, as movement may blur the images.

The amount of radiation you will receive during the test is similar to many types of x-rays and CT scans.

The radioactive tracer you are given remains in your body for a short time and is cleared through normal bodily functions.

Drinking plenty of fluids after the test will help in the clearance of this tracer from the body.

There will be no restrictions to your daily routine after the test.

Please Recycle



If you no longer require this pamphlet please return it to the pamphlet holder or place it in a recycle bin. Thank-you.

Please contact us if you are unable to attend the test or if you have any queries

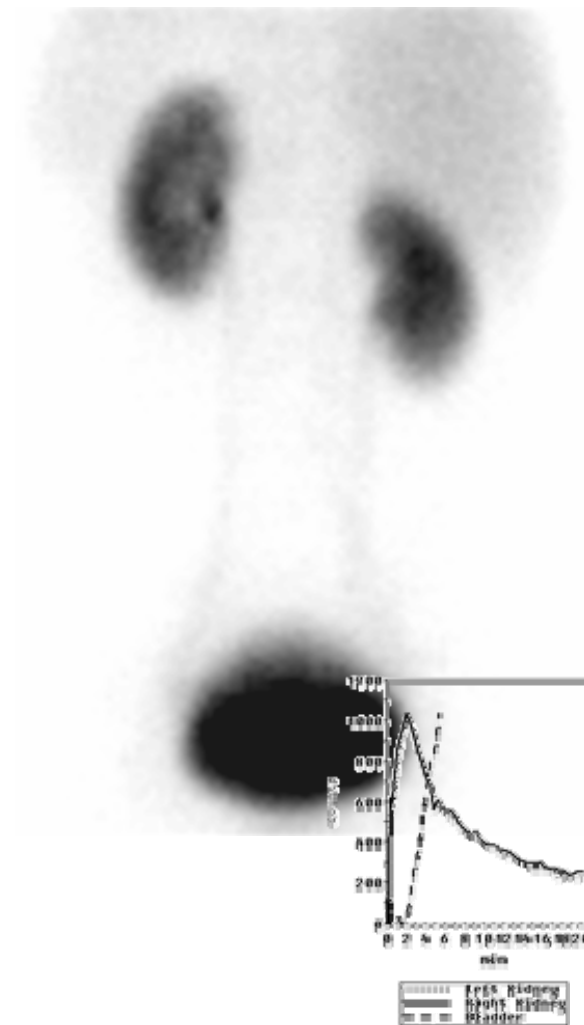
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 Nuclear
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RENAL SCAN

Patient Information

RENAL SCAN

A Nuclear Medicine Renal Scan is a procedure to assess kidney function.

A radioactive tracer which emits gamma radiation and is excreted through the renal system is administered.

The movement and clearance of this radioactive tracer through the renal system is imaged continuously for 20-40 minutes using a Gamma Camera.

The renal scan is a sensitive test that demonstrates kidney blood flow, functional kidney size and urinary output.

Patient Preparation

- **You must be well hydrated** (3-4 glasses of water / juice prior to test)
- **If you are asked to have a Captopril Renal Scan** this requires that you do not take any diuretics such as Lasix at least 48 hours prior and ACE Inhibitor medications for 3-5 days prior to the scan. **Please check with this department on the preparation.**

Test Duration

- **30 minutes for a standard Renal Scan**
- **50 minutes for a Renal Lasix Scan**
- **2 hours for a Renal Captopril Scan**

What does a Renal Scan involve?

PART 1

You will be positioned on the gamma camera and an injection of a radioactive tracer will be given into a vein in your arm. Scanning begins immediately and continues for the next 20 minutes.

PART 2 (A)

If there is a suspected obstruction in the kidney, an injection of a diuretic (Lasix) will be given after 20 minutes and imaging continued for another 20 minutes. This is called a Renal Lasix Scan.

PART 2 (B)

If Renovascular Hypertension is suspected, you will have a standard 20 minute scan (part 1), followed by administration of a blood pressure tablet (Captopril). Your blood pressure will then be monitored over the next hour.

You will then be repositioned on the gamma camera, given a second injection of the radioactive tracer and a second 20 minute scan commenced.

This is called a Renal Captopril Scan and helps determine if your high blood pressure is caused by a disruption to the blood supply to your kidney(s).

PART 3

A Nuclear Medicine Specialist will interpret the scans and send a report to your referring doctor that same day.

Lasix and Captopril

Lasix causes the kidneys to produce more urine and may cause discomfort during the scan. Please tell the technologist or doctor if you become too uncomfortable.

During the remainder of the day you may be thirstier and need to empty your bladder more often. Drink plenty of fluids to compensate for this.

Captopril can drop your blood pressure.

Ask for assistance if you need to get up for any reason. Please tell the technologist or doctor if you feel dizzy or light headed.

What does a Renal Scan investigate?

Some of the more common indications for having this test are:

- Assessment of overall kidney function
- Renovascular Hypertension (high blood pressure caused by problems with blood flow to the kidneys)
- Evaluation of kidney transplants
- Obstruction of drainage of urine from the kidneys