

NUCLEAR MEDICINE DMSA RENAL SCAN

.....
(Patients Name)

Please Report to **Medical Imaging Reception**, Level 2, Building 12, The
Canberra Hospital.

On.....the.....at.....
(Day of Week) (Date) (Time)

What is a DMSA Renal Scan?

A DMSA scan shows us any scarring in the kidneys resulting from infection or reflux. The tracer we use is filtered from the bloodstream by functioning kidney tissue.

What preparation is required?

There is no specific preparation for this test – you do not need to fast, or skip any medications. We recommend you drink plenty of fluids throughout the day of the test, and empty your bladder often. This helps to improve the images and lower your radiation dose.

What happens during the test?

There are two parts to every DMSA Renal Scan.

PART 1: You will be given a small injection of a radioactive tracer, into a vein in your arm.

WAIT: There is a 3-4hr wait for the tracer to be absorbed into your kidneys

PART 2: During the second part of the test we will image the kidneys from several angles. You will be given the time for the second part when we do the initial injection.

Are there any side effects?

There are no side effects from the tracer injection, and no restrictions following the test. You will be able to continue with your usual daily activities. The amount of radiation used is quite small.

How long will the test take?

Please allow 30min for each part of the test. You are not required to stay in the hospital between the two parts.

Can I have this test while I am pregnant or breast feeding?

Your doctors may have requested that you undergo this examination while you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Your doctors will have considered and discussed the risks and benefits of having the scan to the health of both you and your baby.

As part of the procedure you will be given the opportunity to further discuss any concerns that you may have including the potential risks and benefits with one of our staff members.

This examination may have been deemed suitable for you to undergo while you are breastfeeding. You will need to cease breastfeeding for 12 hours following the administration of the radiotracer. It is advised that you express and discard your breast milk during this period. You may resume routine breast feeding after 12 hours. Further information may be obtained from the staff member performing your scan.

If you are / could be pregnant OR are breast-feeding please call us to discuss your options

It is important to bring any previous test results and your Medicare card with you

Please feel free to call us on 6244 2439 if you have any questions or to reschedule



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