What is a Nuclear Medicine Cystogram?
The Nuclear Medicine Cystogram is used to evaluate the function of the bladder and the ureters back up to the kidney. It uses a very small amount of radiation.

What preparation is required?
There is no specific preparation required for this test. Your child may have their normal breakfast prior to arriving.

What happens during the test?
A urinary catheter (a thin plastic tube) will be inserted into your child’s bladder. This can sometimes be uncomfortable and is performed using a local anaesthetic gel. The catheter is taped into place for use during the procedure and then removed once the scan is complete.

The catheter is connected to a sterile saline drip which will gradually fill your child’s bladder. The saline solution will also contain a small amount of the radioactive material which will enable the urinary system to be seen on our imaging equipment. Images are taken continuously as the bladder is filled and then as your child empties their bladder on the imaging table. We may repeat this process up to 3 times.

Are there any side effects?
There should be no side effects from the tracer infusion, and no restrictions following the test. The amount of radiation used is calculated according to your child’s size and the majority of it is excreted before the test is finished. Any remaining radioactivity can be reduced by encouraging your child to drink fluids and emptying their bladder following the procedure.

How long will the test take?
The scan should take no longer than 1 hour.
Other imaging

Sometimes a Nuclear Medicine Cystogram is performed in conjunction with other imaging tests such as an X-ray MCU, a renal ultrasound and / or a Nuclear Medicine DMSA. If your child’s physician has requested these tests please let us know so that we can schedule our testing appropriately. We may be able to arrange to have them all on the one day.

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.