

# Lasix Renal Scan

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## What is a Lasix renal scan?

A Lasix renal scan is a test that shows how well your child's kidneys are working and if there is anything blocking the kidneys, ureters and bladder (urinary system). The test is also called a MAG-3 renogram. We will inject a small amount of a tracer (radiopharmaceutical) into your child's veins. Once the tracer is in your child's body, we take pictures of the urinary system. After the scan, we will do a measurement to compare the amount of kidney function in the right and left kidneys.

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## How do I prepare my child for the scan?

Explain what will happen during the scan to your child before you come to the hospital.

If your child is a baby, you may want to bring a bottle of formula or juice with you for after the scan. Also, consider bringing a pacifier, blanket or special toy to help calm your child.

Dress your child comfortably in clothes without zippers or snaps. Sweats are a good choice.

We have videos your child can watch, or they can bring their favorite video or DVD from home to watch during the scan.

Your child should not drink fluids that contain caffeine (soft drinks, tea, coffee, etc.) on the day of the scan.

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## To Learn More

- Radiology  
206-987-2089
- Ask your child's healthcare provider
- [seattlechildrens.org](http://seattlechildrens.org)

## Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line, 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.

### How do we check in for the appointment?

Arrive 20 minutes before your scheduled appointment. Being late can affect other appointments and can delay your appointment. If you will be late, please call Radiology at 206-987-2089.

Check in at the level 6 registration desk inside the Ocean entrance. After you complete registration, you will be directed to the Radiology reception area.

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### What happens during a renal scan?

A nurse will place an IV (small needle in the vein) in your child for the tracer injection. Your child will only feel a little discomfort, like a mild pinch. Your child will lie on a scanning bed while pictures are taken with a special camera that is located below them. This picture session lasts about 60 minutes. Your child may be given a medicine called Lasix (a diuretic) about 15 minutes into the scan. The Lasix is given through the IV and will have no side effects on your child.

Your child will need to be still while the IV is placed and while the pictures are taken. It is often difficult for children to lie still during these times. If your child is unable to lie still, our staff will assist them in holding still.

Parents may stay with their child during the entire scan. Please make other arrangements for siblings.

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### Does the Lasix renal scan use radiation?

Yes, your child will be exposed to a small amount of radiation. We understand that radiation dose is a special concern for children. To minimize how much radiation your child is exposed to, we customize the Lasix renal scan based on your child's age, weight and area to be examined.

If you have questions about the exam and whether it is needed, please contact the doctor who ordered the scan for your child.

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### What happens after the scan?

The technologist will tell you when the scan is complete. The IV will be removed and your child may return to normal daily activities.

Your child will remove the tracer from their body when they pee.

It should be completely out of your child's body within several hours.

The images from your child's radiology procedure are typically reviewed by a radiologist within 24 hours, and a report will be sent to the doctor who ordered the test. If you have a clinic or doctor appointment scheduled, the doctor will review the results with you then. If you do not have a visit scheduled, you should call your child's doctor for the results.

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