

# GFR Study

A GFR study estimates the glomerular filtration rate of the kidneys which determines how well the kidneys are filtering the blood.

## Procedure:

***The test requires an injection of a small amount of radioactive substance ('tracer') into a vein. The tracer travels to the kidneys by the blood stream.***

- The amount of radiation involved is very low. The tracer is non-toxic and will not cause nausea, hot flushes or drowsiness
- To perform this study accurately the tracer should **not** be given through a Port, PICC or central line.
- A small plastic tube (cannula) is inserted into a vein and will be used for the injection and to take blood samples. The tube is taped in place and an arm board and bandage used to keep it secure.
- Three blood samples will be taken over a 4 hour period – at 2, 3 and 4 hours after the initial injection. You are not required to stay in the department for the whole time.
- Once the last blood sample is taken the tube is removed and you can go home.
- The Nuclear Medicine Technologist will then calculate the GFR estimation.

We like parents or caregivers to stay during the scan as children are usually more cooperative and less apprehensive when a loved one is with them. However, the number of people present during the scan must be kept to a minimum.

Other children can't be allowed into the procedure room. Please make alternative arrangements for their care during the procedure. Children up to 10 years old may be cared for in the WCH crèche.

## Patient Preparation:

Please be sure to follow instructions carefully to avoid having to rebook the scan.

AnGel Cream- An anaesthetic cream (AnGel) can be used for children aged 1 month and over. The AnGel cream will numb the skin to help take the "ouch" out of the injection. Please arrive 1 hour before injection time for cream application.

All Patients should have normal breakfast/snacks prior to appointment, and an extra drink (water or juice) is recommended. Young children may be given milk.

## Pregnancy / Breast feeding:

Any person either having a Nuclear Medicine scan, or staying with a child during a scan, must inform the Nuclear Medicine staff if they are, or think they might be pregnant.

If you are having a Nuclear Medicine scan and are breastfeeding, please contact Nuclear Medicine staff prior to attending for your appointment.

## Patient Identification:

Patient identification is an important step to ensure your child always receives the right care. You will be asked to state your child's name and date of birth several times during the Nuclear Medicine study.

## Results:

The GFR result will be sent to your child's referring doctor.

**If your child is unwell, or you are unable to attend your appointment please contact the Nuclear Medicine Department on 8161 6020.**