

Fact sheet

Salivagram Study

A radionuclide Salivagram is used to demonstrate aspiration of saliva.

Procedure:

When the child is under the camera a drop of radionuclide or 'tracer' is placed on the back of the tongue using a syringe.

Only a very small amount is needed as we are looking at the pathway of saliva over time not the swallowing mechanism.

Imaging is continuous over 45 minutes. There are no side effects from the 'tracer'

Patient Preparation

No preparation is required for a Salivagram.

Allow 1 hour for this scan.

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 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.

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.

Results:

The scan results 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.