

# KIDNEY SCAN (DMSA RENAL SCINTIGRAPHY TEST)

Appointment

Date:

Time:

## This test is all about your kidneys

### Why has your doctor recommended this test?

A DMSA renal scintigraphy test (also sometimes referred to as renal cortical scintigraphy) is used to image the functional cortex tissue of the kidneys.

DMSA renal scans are commonly used to look at the way your kidneys are working, if there are any chronic urinary tract infections or kidney scarring.

You can drive to and from the test if you want to, but you are more than welcome to bring a friend or family member for support. Our offices are clearly signposted with ample onsite parking.

### No preparation is required for this test

However, if this test is being performed on a child who may have difficulty remaining still during 20 minutes of imaging, please contact the technologist prior to the scan day to discuss possible options.

Please inform the technologist if you are pregnant, there is a possibility you might be pregnant, or if you are breastfeeding, prior to your scan.

### What happens during the test?

The test is performed over two appointments in the same day.

At the first test appointment:

- 1 A small amount of mild radioactive liquid will be given through a vein in your arm. It feels similar to having a blood test, does not make you feel any different, and there are no side effects.
- 2 There is a three hour gap from this appointment and your next, you are free to leave the clinic, and there are no restrictions on eating, drinking or driving your car.

At the second test appointment:

- 1 You are asked to lie on your back on the imaging bed, and the technologist will position the camera over your kidneys.
- 2 The imaging process begins and images are collected over the next 20 minutes.
- 3 Parents of children having the test are able to remain in the room with their child during the imaging procedure.

### Should I be worried about the Radiation dose?

There is no need to worry. The radiation dose from this procedure is relatively low and it's similar to what you would be exposed to in a standard x-ray.

However if you are worried or have any concerns, please share them with any of our staff, they're there to help.

### After the scan

We'll ask you to wait in the waiting room while we make sure we have everything we need. This only takes a few moments and once done we'll let you know so you can go home or back to work.

We'll then have our specialist reviewers analyse your results and they will report back to your doctor within 1-2 days of doing the test.

If you have any questions at all, let us know.

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imaging