

Having a micturating cystogram (children)

This leaflet explains what happens during a micturating cystogram examination in the Radiology (X-ray) Department at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. The examination is conducted by a radiologist (specialist X-ray doctor).

What is a micturating cystogram?

This examination is to look at your child's bladder and urethra (the small tube through which urine is passed).

Why does my child need this test?

It is used to diagnose why your child is getting urinary tract infections. The test will show if any urine flows back (refluxes) from the bladder into the kidneys. This information is vital for the appropriate care of your child's problems.

How long will it take?

The investigation takes between 20 to 30 minutes.

Preparation

There is no preparation for this test.

What does it involve?

Immediately before the examination, you will need to remove your child's clothes down to their underwear. You will be able to stay with and comfort your child (but please read the 'Are there any risks?' section overleaf carefully). The radiologist will put a thin soft tube (a catheter) through the urethra into your child's bladder. The tube will be coated with local anaesthetic jelly to reduce discomfort. An X-ray contrast liquid that can be seen on X-rays is run into the bladder until it is full. The tube is removed and we wait for your child to pass water while the radiologist takes X-rays.

After the micturating cystogram

Your child can get dressed and you may leave. Most children will need to have prophylactic (preventative) antibiotics, which you should have been given at your clinic appointment when this test was requested. If you do not have a prescription for these, please telephone the Paediatric Outpatient Department (Children's Clinic) on 0118 322 7530 /7531.

Results

A report of your child's examination will be sent to your referring doctor; if this is a hospital specialist, then the specialist will contact your GP with the report.

Are there any risks?

This test involves X-rays. The amount of radiation is low and is kept to a minimum. For women of childbearing age, as a parent or carer you will not be able stay with your child if there is any chance you might be pregnant, as radiation is potentially harmful to the baby.

There is a very small risk of introducing infection, which is why the procedure is covered with antibiotics.

Further information

www.patient.co.uk/health/micturatingvoiding-cystourethrogram-mcugvcug

Radiology Department Tel 0118 322 7991

To find out more about our Trust visit www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk

Please ask if you need this information in another language or format.

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