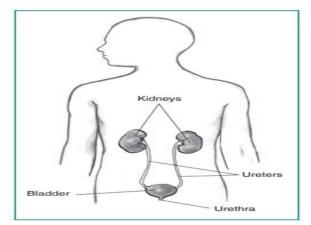


# MAG 3 RENAL SCAN

## QUICK FACTS:

- MAG 3 renal scans are nuclear medicine tests that examine kidney size, shape, position, function, and blockage of urine flow. This exam usually takes 1.5 to 2 hours.
- Your child will receive an IV and a catheter for this exam.
- Your child will be awake throughout this exam.
- Your child can partake in normal activities and diet afterward.



# A LITTLE ABOUT OUR BODY:

- Our kidneys make our urine, which then flows down the ureters and into the bladder.
- A MAG 3 exam will allow your child's primary care physician to examine your child's kidneys and see how they are functioning.

### ABOUT THE MAG 3 EXAM:

- For a MAG 3 exam, an IV will be placed in your child's hand or arm. This IV will be used to inject IV fluids, <u>radioisotope</u>, and <u>Lasix</u>.
- A tiny catheter will be placed through your child's urethra and into the bladder. Before the catheter is placed by one of our nurses, the nurse will clean the area with cold soap. The catheter is placed to drain urine from your child's bladder and keep it empty throughout the exam.
- After the IV and catheter are placed, the Nuclear Medicine Technologist will then inject the radioisotope through your child's IV.
- Once the injection is done, a special gamma camera will take images of your child's kidneys. Imaging usually takes about 45 minutes to complete. It is important for your child to lie still throughout imaging.
- Once all images are taken, the IV and catheter will be removed, and the exam is complete.



### WORDS TO KNOW:

- <u>Radioisotope:</u> The radioisotope used during this exam is called Technetium-99m MAG3. This radioisotope has a tiny amount of radioactive molecules in it.
- <u>Lasix:</u> A diuretic that will cause your child to produce more urine than usual.

## IS MAG 3 SAFE?

- The radioisotope used has only a tiny amount of radioactive molecules in it.
- The camera used does not produce any radiation.

# PARENT/ GUARDIAN'S ROLE DURING EXAM:

- Parents and guardians are welcome to be present during exam to support their child.
- Medical staff will instruct parents/guardians on where to stand while in the room to help the exam run smoothly.
- Parents/guardians are encouraged to help their child relax and keep calm and still throughout the examincluding IV and catheter placement.
- If your child has any comfort items such as stuffed animals, pacifiers, small handheld toys, or blankets, you are more than welcome to bring those along.



## **PEOPLE YOU MAY MEET:**

- Nurse (RN)
- Nuclear Medicine Technologist
- Child Life Specialist\*

\*Child Life is available depending on your child's appointment time, needs, and developmental level.

## WHY MAG 3?

- A MAG 3 renal scan can help:
  - detect and evaluate hyrdronephrosis
  - $\circ$  determine relative (differential) renal function in the right and left kidneys
  - detect and evaluate obstruction in the renal collecting system
  - detect acute tubular necrosis
  - o evaluate renal function in children allergic to radiographic contrast
  - evaluate renal perfusion and function in certain cases of renal immaturity
  - $\circ$  evaluate renal trauma

### **AFTER THE EXAM:**

- After a MAG 3 exam your child can resume normal activities and diet.
- Your child's urine will be radioactive for 24 hours. Have your child wash their hands twice after using the restroom during this time.
- Your child will feel as if they need to use the restroom more than usual. This is normal, and will go away shortly.
- If your child is in diapers, they will need more changing than usual. Wash your hands twice after changing.

## **ADDITIONAL INFO:**

- This informational sheet is to provide basic knowledge of a MAG 3 exam. Exam experiences may vary depending on the following factors:
  - Whether your child is male or female
  - Your child's age
  - Use of 'anxio mask'
- Your nurse for the exam will explain the exam in detail, so please feel free to ask questions if needed. We as a hospital team are here to support both you and your child throughout your experience.