

A DMSA scan is performed to examine the kidneys. At the Radiology Department, X-rays are taken after administrating slightly radioactive material.

Preparation

The paediatrician will consult you to determine the day and time when this examination will be done. At the agreed time, you will report to the Paediatric Ward. The following activities will then take place:

- EMLA bandages are attached to anaesthetise the IV site. The absorption time is 1 hour.
- Your child might be weighed.
- The paediatrician will insert an IV needle with a valve, possibly with a splint.
- Your child may walk around and does not need to lie in bed - as long as he/she is not too young.

Test

During the examination, the nurse will accompany you to the Radiology Department. The following treatments will take place:

- Slightly radioactive fluid is administered via the IV valve.
- Subsequently, the IV will be removed on the Paediatric Ward.
- The X-ray photos will be taken 3 to 4 hours later.
- Your child will need to drink extra in the meantime so that the liquid can disperse well.
- After her/she visits the toilet, his/her hands must be washed thoroughly.
- Your child should urinate in the Paediatric Ward just before the X-rays are taken.
- During the examination, any metal objects – such as a belt, zippers or buttons – will be removed.
- During the examination, your child will be lying on his/her back on a narrow, soft bed.
- Your child will remain still on the table, and the device will revolve three times around the table.
- You and your child can watch along on a screen.

Please note there is no danger of being exposed to radiation!

Examination duration

The examination will take approximately 5 hours, including the preparation and the absorption of the radioactive material. The X-ray procedure itself will take about 30 minutes.

The results

After the examination, you will schedule an appointment at the Paediatrics Outpatient Clinic to obtain the results.

The phone number of the Paediatrics Outpatient Clinic is 020 – 755 7028.