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X Ray Department

Bon Secours Hospital

Tralee, Co Kerry.

***Patient Information Leaflet
For an***

***Adult MCUG
(Micturating Cystourethrogram)***

MCUG

This leaflet will give you the following information:

- What is an MCUG?
- How should I prepare?
- What will I experience during and after the procedure?
- Who interprets the results and how do I get them?

What is a MCUG?



An MCUG is an x ray examination of the urinary system; specifically of the bladder in order to determine if there is any evidence of abnormal flow between the bladder and one or more of the ureters. This examination uses a special form of x ray called fluoroscopy and a contrast dye in order to visualize the urinary system. X Ray images will be taken while you urinate; you may find this embarrassing but please remember that this is a routine test and the staff will do their utmost to help you feel as relaxed as possible.

How Should I Prepare

- You will have to attend the Admissions Office the morning of your examination. The Consultant who referred you for your MCUG and hospital staff will give you an admission time.
- There are no special preparations required before arriving to the hospital. You can eat and drink normally **unless** specifically instructed otherwise by your Consultant.
- Please remember if your are scheduled for additional tests on the same day for example **a cystoscopy** or **a flow study** you will be given detailed instructions by your doctor regarding fasting and

medications. If you have concerns or worries please contact your Consultant.

- You should inform your doctor of any medications you are taking, if you have any allergies or if you are a diabetic. If you are a diabetic please inform the x ray staff as soon as you arrive at the department and bring your medication and appropriate food with you.
- Please take your usual prescribed medications unless clearly advised otherwise by your doctor.
- Do not bring any valuables to the hospital with you (e.g. jewelry).
- Women of child bearing years should inform their doctor if they think there is any possibility that they are pregnant. Current radiation legislation policy dictates that female patients who have not gone through the menopause must have had a period within ten days before the x ray test.

What will I experience during and after the procedure?

- Once you are admitted to the ward the staff will prepare you for the MCUG. The genital area is cleaned and a catheter is passed through the urethra (the tube that carries urine from the bladder out of the body) into the bladder. This should not be painful but may be a little uncomfortable.
- You will then be escorted to the x ray department. The Radiographer will ask you to lie on your back on the x ray table. They will take this opportunity to explain the procedure to you.
- They will then connect the end of the catheter (the section that lies outside of the body) to a bottle of x ray dye/ contrast. This is kept at body temperature so you should not be uncomfortable once it begins to flow into the bladder. You will be covered with a sheet at all times.
- The Radiologist will take some x ray images to monitor the contrast flowing into the bladder; once the bladder is full and you are experiencing the urge to urinate; the Radiographer will remove the urinary catheter and position a bedpan underneath you.

- The Radiologist will need to take x ray images while you urinate to determine if any of the x ray dye is flowing backwards into one or both of the ureters. This can be difficult to achieve particularly as you are lying flat on a table however be patient; this is a routine examination in the x ray department and the staff are there to support and assist you.
- Once the examination is completed the catheter will be removed and you can return to the ward.
- The test takes approximately 20 minutes.

After the examination

- After the examination you may resume your normal diet (unless specifically told otherwise by the ward staff).
- The x ray dye will not discolor your urine or cause any discomfort when you urinate. If you experience such symptoms after the MCUG examination please contact your GP promptly for advice.
- A radiologist will analyze the images and send a report to the doctor who referred you for the MCUG. Your doctor / consultant will discuss the results of the test with you on the ward (usually within a few hours of the examination).
- The ward will be able to provide you with information regarding discharge times, procedures and advice. However you should be prepared to remain on the ward until you have been reviewed by your Consultant and until you have passed urine after your return from the x ray department.
- Once home if you have any concerns please contact the Consultant or your own GP.

If you have any further questions please contact your doctor or the x ray department (066 7149869).

Please cancel your appointment by phone if you are unable to come - preferably at least one day before the examination date.

Questions

We understand that there may be questions or queries that you would like to be answered and sometimes you may forget what you want to ask.

The space below has been included for you to write down any questions or queries that you may have.