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X Ray Department

Bon Secours Hospital

Tralee, Co Kerry.

***Patient Information Leaflet
For an***

***Paediatric 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?



A paediatric MCUG is an x ray examination of a child's bladder and lower urinary tract. This examination uses a special form of x ray called fluoroscopy and a contrast dye in order to visualize the urinary system. Fluoroscopy allows us to see the internal organs in "real time" on a monitor. When the bladder is filled with and then emptied of x ray dye; the Radiologist is able to view and assess the anatomy and function of the bladder and urinary tract and determine if there is a reflux (urine going backwards into the kidneys) or a blockage.

How Should I Prepare

- Your child will be admitted to the Children's Ward before attending the x ray department for the MCUG examination.
- There are no special preparations required before arriving on the Children's Ward. Children can eat and drink normally **unless** specifically instructed otherwise by the Paediatric Consultant.
- Please ensure your child takes their usual prescribed medications unless clearly advised otherwise by your doctor.
- You should inform the x ray staff if your child has any allergies or if they have diabetes.
- One parent / guardian can remain with your child throughout the examination however if there is any possibility that you may be pregnant you cannot remain in the x ray room once the test has commenced - it is advisable to find an alternative escort so that your child will have a familiar person with them for reassurance and comfort.
- An MCUG is an x ray procedure therefore metal objects appear on x ray images; you should avoid dressing your child in clothing with snappers and zips. Replace metal nappy pins with adhesive tape.
- Your child can bring a book to read or a toy to play with during the procedure.
- Girls of twelve years and over will be asked to tell the Radiographer when the first day of their last period was. 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 your child is admitted to the ward the staff will prepare 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. Depending on the age of the child they may be given some medication to help them relax.
- You will then be escorted to the x ray department. The Radiographer will ask you to lay your child on the x ray table and will take this opportunity to explain the procedure to both you and

your child. You will be asked to wear a lead apron so that you can remain at your child's side throughout the test.

- They will then connect the end of the catheter (the section that lies outside of the body) to a bottle of x ray dye. This is kept at body temperature so your child should not be uncomfortable once it begins to flow into the bladder.
- The Radiologist will take some x ray images to monitor the contrast in the bladder; once the bladder is full and the child (if old enough) communicates that they wish to pass urine they will be encouraged to do so (in some cases the catheter will be removed just prior to emptying the bladder).
- The Radiologist will need to take x ray images while your child is urinating to determine if any of the x ray dye is flowing backwards into one or both of the ureters. This can be difficult for children to achieve and they may require your encouragement to empty their bladder.
- Once the examination is completed the catheter will be removed and your child can return to the ward.
- The test takes approximately 20 minutes.

After the examination

- 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 Children's 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 your child has been reviewed by your Consultant and until they have passed urine after their 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 either you or your child 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.

