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The evidence used in the preparation of this leaflet is available on request. Please email: [patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk](mailto:patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk) if you would like a reference list.

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# **Information for children having a Micturating Cystourethrogram** (page 1 of 2)

## **What is a Micturating Cystourethrogram**

This is a special X-ray to assess bladder function and to demonstrate whether reflux of urine takes place.

## **What happens during the test?**

Your child will need to have a small catheter inserted into the bladder so that we can inject a colourless liquid which shows up on X-rays. The catheter is inserted by either a doctor or a nurse. Although this may be uncomfortable it only takes a few seconds. A number of X-rays will then be taken, first with a full bladder and then with your child passing urine.

We recommend that all patients have plenty to drink after this examination and also have a warm bath to remove any residual contrast. If there are any problems passing urine the next day, contact your GP.

Do ask your doctor or radiographer if there is anything you do not understand or would like to know.

## **Is there any special preparation?**

Your child is likely to be on antibiotics but it is important if they are not that they take them before the test. If your child is not taking antibiotics, please contact the consultant who referred you for the examination. The recommended antibiotic is Trimethoprim 2mgs per kilogram daily. This should be started 5 days before the X-ray and continued until told otherwise by the doctor who referred you for the X-ray.

## **How long will the examination take?**

It usually takes approximately 30 minutes, however please allow at least one hour for the whole examination.

## **When will I get the results?**

After the procedure the images will be examined by the radiologist and a report on the examination will be written and sent to the consultant who referred your child. If you haven't got a follow-up appointment already with the referring consultant they will send you out an appointment letter within approximately two weeks.

**Clinical Radiology**

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## What are the risks?

This investigation involves exposure to X-rays. Which consist of a type of radiation known as ionising radiation. The doses that are used in medical x-rays are very low and the associated risks are minimal. The radiologist and radiographer is responsible for making sure that the dose is kept as low as possible and that the benefits of having the X-ray outweigh any risk.