

## **Thank you for choosing Yale New Haven Hospital**

*We are looking forward to providing you with exceptional care.*

A DMSA renal scan is a diagnostic imaging exam that evaluates the function, size, shape and position of the kidneys and detects scarring caused by frequent infections.

**This exam consists of two appointments over three hours apart.**

### **Yale New Haven Hospital Preparation for this Exam:**

#### **Before Arriving for Your Exam**

- Please arrive **15 minutes** early to check in.
- Children accompanying patients during visits:
  - Unfortunately, we cannot routinely supervise your children during your imaging study. We believe that you are best served when we can provide 100% of our attention to you. Therefore, we encourage you to make childcare arrangements or to bring a responsible adult with you to supervise your children.
- No prep or restrictions for this examination.
- The injection for this exam is specifically ordered for you and is very expensive, if you are unable to keep your appointment or have any questions, please call us at 203-688-1011 option 7.
- Wear loose comfortable clothing, since you will need to lie still for a period of time.
- We want to make your waiting time as pleasant as possible. Consider bringing your favorite magazine, book or music player to help you pass the time.
- Please leave your jewelry and valuables at home.

#### **After Arriving**

- Upon arrival, a technologist will explain your procedure and answer any questions you may have.
- **ATTENTION Females (ages 10 to 55)**  
To ensure Radiation Safety, the following is YNHH Policy on pregnancy test for this Radiology exam.
  - **PARENTS:** To ensure Radiation Safety, YNHH Policy requires that a pregnancy test is performed on all females (ages 10 to 17) prior to the start of the exam that is scheduled.
  - Females (ages 18 to 55) may either sign a waiver stating that there is no chance that you could currently be pregnant, or have the choice to take a pregnancy test prior to the exam

#### **During Your Exam**

- A tiny amount of the radioisotope called Technetium-99m DMSA will be injected into one of your veins by a small needle.
- The level of radioactivity is extremely low and has no side effects.
- You will be asked to return 3 hours later for imaging.
- When you return, you will be asked to void/empty your bladder prior to imaging (use the bathroom).
- You will lie on the table and a large camera will be positioned above and below you.
- The camera may stay still or move slowly around your body as pictures are taken.
- It is important that you remain still during the imaging in order to obtain the best quality images possible. Motion will degrade the images and the images will need to be repeated.

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## Exam Duration

- **First appointment:** approximately 15-30 minutes
- **Second appointment:** Adult patients: approximately 60-90 minutes. Pediatric patients: approximately 30-60 minutes.

## After Your Procedure

- There are no restrictions placed on you after this procedure. You may eat and drive as normal.
- Your exam will be interpreted by a Radiologist (a doctor who is an expert in understanding these exams). A report will be sent to your provider, who can review the results with you.

\*For more general information on what to expect during your upcoming radiology exam.

Visit this link to **Nuclear Medicine, Renal Scintigraphy** at [RadiologyInfo.org](http://RadiologyInfo.org)

*[RadiologyInfo.org](http://RadiologyInfo.org) is the public information resource developed by health care professionals in collaboration with patients. It was established to inform and educate the public about how various x-ray, CT, MRI, ultrasound, radiation therapy and other procedures/exams are performed and what you may experience during your procedure.*

*RadiologyInfo.org is sponsored by the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) and the American College of Radiology (ACR).*

**Yale New Haven Hospital thanks you for  
choosing us to be part of your healthcare team.**