

Gastroesophageal Reflux & Aspiration



Radiology Department
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Nuclear Medicine Supplement:

Please read the pamphlet: **Nuclear Medicine Scans BCCH1097** before this sheet.

Why is the test done?

This study checks whether stomach contents are causing backup and spilling into the windpipe. The study will show how much backflow there is.

What happens during the test?

Your child must have an empty stomach before arriving or the pictures will not be clear.

No injection is given for this study. When you arrive at the Nuclear Medicine Department your child will drink milk or formula with radioactive substance mixed into it.

Scans will begin at once and take about one hour. More scans will be done 4 hours after the drink. These take 15 minutes. You may leave the department between scans.

Note: Your child can eat normally after the first hour of scans is done unless s/he is on a special diet for another reason.

How to prepare for the test:

Your child must not eat or drink anything, not even water, for the following amount of time before arriving for the first day of scans:

- Infants under 2 months: **3 hours** (miss 1 feeding)
- Babies 2-6 months old: **3-4 hours**
- Babies 7-12 months old: **4-6 hours**
- Children over 1 year: **8 hours**

If your child takes medicine when s/he eats, bring the medicine with you to the test.

What are the side effects?

If the child throws up within 3 hours of taking the drink, the stomach contents will have very small amounts of radioactive material. Wear gloves when you clean up or change the child.

If you have any questions, you can talk to the **Radiation Safety Officer at 604-875-2129.**