

Getting a Nuclear
Medicine DMSA Scan
Photo Preparation Book



This is the Radiology Waiting Room. There are a lot of fun things to do in this room while you wait!

The people in this room are waiting for pictures called X-rays, Ultrasounds, CT scans, or DMSA's (just like you!)



Next, you will go to one of the registration desks. The patient services representative will let the technologists know that you are here.



You will also get a special bracelet that tells everyone who you are. Then you will go back to the waiting room.



Next, a nuclear medicine technologist will walk you from the waiting room to the green room.

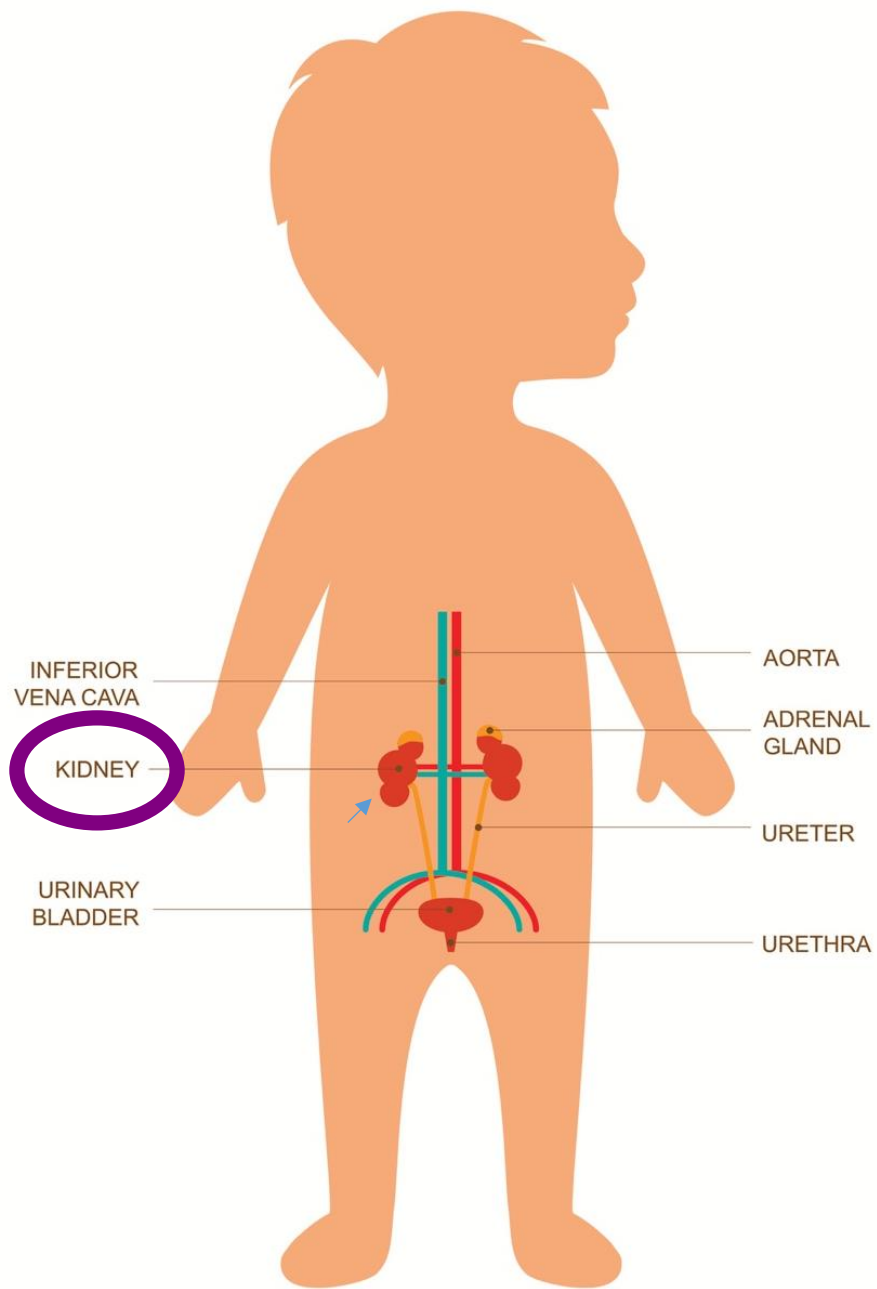
A technologist is the person who will take your pictures!

In this room, you will find out how much you weigh.



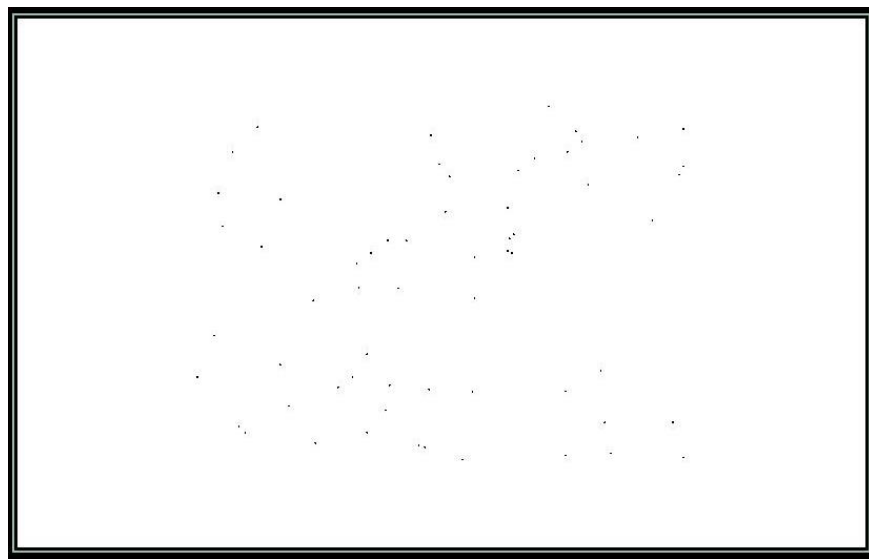
A nuclear medicine scan uses a special camera called a GAMMA CAMERA that takes pictures of the inside of your body.

The camera does not make any noise and does not touch you.



Getting a DMSA scan means you are getting a picture of your kidneys.

A DMSA liquid is used to help the camera find your kidneys. Can you tell which picture has the DMSA liquid?





The DMSA liquid goes into your body through your veins.

Veins are the blue lines under your skin that carry blood through your body.

The DMSA liquid gets to your veins through a straw or IV.

Once you get the liquid through the IV, the IV will come out right away!

We understand that IV's can make you feel nervous.

Let's make a Coping Plan to help!

Ask your nurse about:

- Child Life Specialist
- Freezy Spray
- LMX (numbing cream)
- Buzzy Bee
- Comfort Positioning

Decide if you want to:

- Watch or look away
- Count 1-2-3 or not
- Sit on someone's lap or by yourself
- Take a deep breath
- Play a game
- Anything else that might help

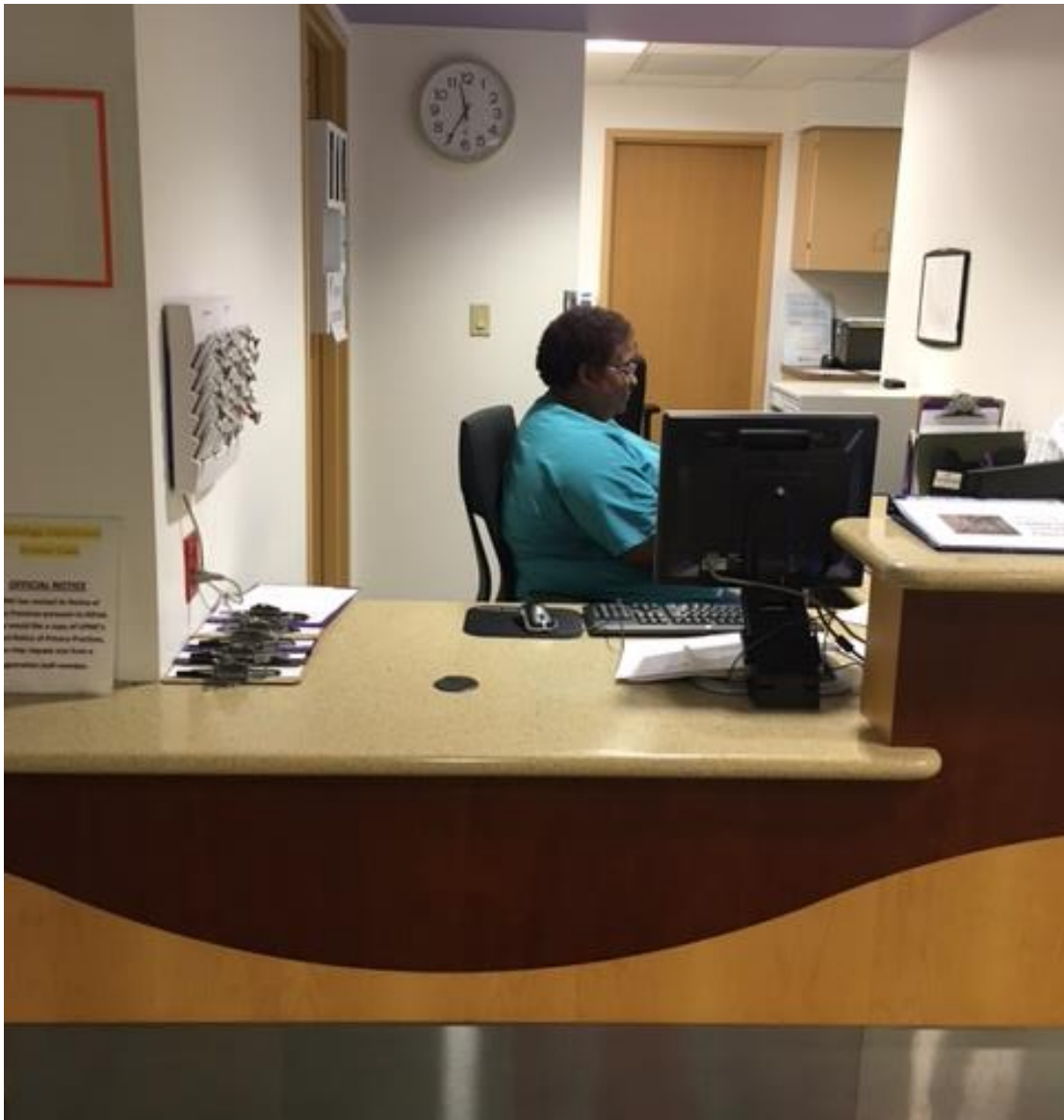




After the DMSA liquid has been injected, you will have a 90-minute break.

During this time there are no restrictions, so you can get something to eat and drink as long as it doesn't interfere with another test you may have that day.

After the 90 minutes is complete, you can return to the radiology registration desk to let them know you're back!



Once you let the person at registration know you're back, the nuclear medicine technologist will call your name to walk back to the jungle room.



You will lie on the bed for your pictures.

The technologist will give you a seatbelt to help remind you to stay still for the pictures.

Remember: the camera never touches you!



Your most important job while your pictures are being taken is to **stay very still!**

You can watch a movie or listen to music on the iPad to help you **stay still.**

Your pictures will take about 45 minutes.

The grown up you brought with you can sit next to you the whole time.

Additional Support

If your child has any special needs or health issues you feel the doctor needs to know about, please call the Department of Pediatric Radiology at Children's to speak with a technologist or Child Life Specialist before the test. (412) 692-5512.

It is important to notify us in advance about any special needs.

Preparing your child beforehand, as well as comforting your child during the test, will help your child have a more positive experience.

Sometimes it is difficult to know how to explain tests to children. These preparation books have been created to help you and your child feel as prepared as possible.

If you feel that your child will have difficulty during the test or needs a more developmentally appropriate explanation prior to their visit, please call the Department of Pediatric Radiology's Child Life Specialist (412) 692- 9532.