

Medical Imaging patient information

Screening: Micturating Cysto- Urethrogram (MCU)

What is a Micturating Cysto- Urethrogram (MCU)?

This procedure is performed to outline the bottom ends of the ureters, the bladder and urethra (tube that comes out from the bladder) using X-ray contrast. This procedure is performed to assess for reflux (or urine travelling back up the ureters when the bladder is full).

How do I make an appointment for this procedure?

A specialist Paediatric Radiologist performs all paediatric-screening examinations. Sessions are scheduled for Tuesdays 9:00am – 1:00pm and Wednesdays 1:00pm – 5:00pm.

Please phone 9508 1444 during business hours (8:00am – 6:00pm Monday to Friday) to make an appointment.

What preparation is required?

Nappies will need to be removed from babies. Underpants will need to be removed for all young children and a hospital gown worn.

Please bring spare nappies and your child's favourite toy.

What is involved?

Your child will lie on their back on the X-ray table. This procedure is a sterile procedure. A hospital drape will be placed across their lower body. The radiologist will wear a gown, gloves and mask. If your child has a catheter in place, we will use it to fill their bladder with contrast.

If your child does not have a catheter in place, a small tube will be inserted into the urethra and a small balloon inflated at the end to hold it in place within the bladder.

Once the bladder is full, X-ray images will be taken of the bladder. Young children may be asked to try to urinate whilst more images are being taken. Babies will usually start to empty their bladder automatically.

Are there any side effects?

There are no side effects with this procedure, however we do encourage a parent to stay with their child during the procedure as the child can become distressed. Mothers need to inform the radiographer if they think they might be pregnant.

How long will this take?

This procedure will take approximately 30 minutes.

How do I get my results?

Digital images are immediately available to your doctor and your records will be kept permanently. This occurs through a system called PACS. If a priority report is requested it will be issued within two hours and faxed or emailed to your doctor, however this can sometimes take up to 24 hours. If your referring doctor wants to see you on the day of your examination, please advise the reception staff when you arrive for your appointment, so the appropriate information can be made available for you to take to your doctor.

How much will this cost?

Please speak with the receptionist when making your booking regarding the cost.

Please note:

If you are or think you may be pregnant or if you are breast-feeding, please tell the staff when you make your booking for the test. It is important to bring with you your referral, previous X-rays or other tests (only if previous ones were **not** done at Cabrini or MIA).

For an appointment or if you have any questions about the test please call 9508 1444