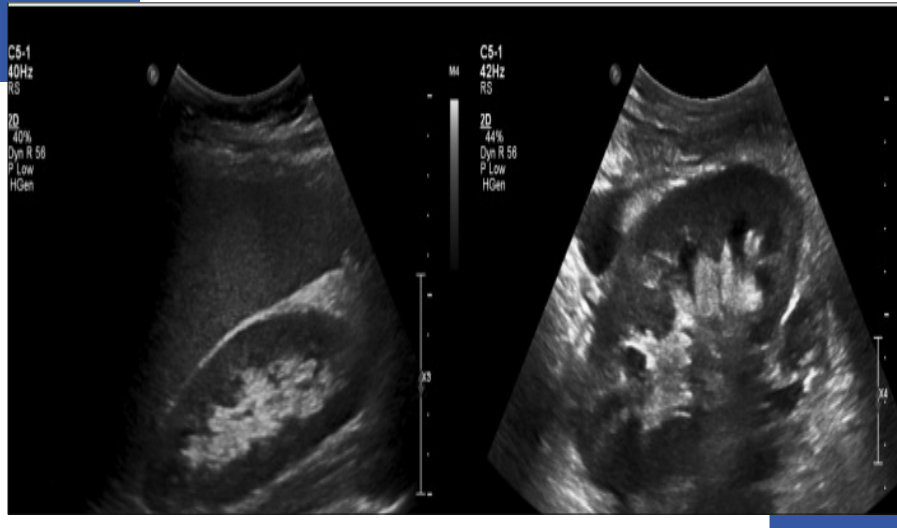




Understanding EC Renal Scan

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What is an EC Renal Scan?

An Ethylene Dichloride Renogram (EC Renal Scan) is a nuclear medicine test that assesses kidney function, blood flow, and drainage. A small dose of a radioactive radionuclide (EC tracer) is injected intravenously, and a gamma camera tracks the EC tracer as it passes through the kidneys and urinary system. This scan assesses the function of the kidneys and determines if the patient is urinating properly.

Why is it Performed?

EC Renal Scan measures and test the individual kidney's activity to see whether the kidneys are getting enough blood and working. It aids in the diagnosis of urinary tract or renal abnormalities, including hydronephrosis, a difference in the function of the kidneys, or suspected urinary obstruction. The results are evaluated along with clinical situations, history, blood laboratory tests, and ultrasound examination.

Preparation

- Maintain adequate hydration as advised before the scan.
- Inform the medical team about current medicines, allergies, and relevant medical conditions and if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.
- Bring previous kidney function tests, ultrasound reports, and other relevant medical records.

Procedure

A radioisotope EC tracer is injected intravenously in a small quantity. The tracer becomes part of the blood flow and is carried to the kidneys, where it is processed and expelled through the urinary system. The patient is placed on an imaging table in a comfortable position, and the tracer is continually tracked as it traverses both kidneys by a gamma camera. Sometimes a diuretic drug is given to test the flow of urine and to determine if there is any blockage. Depending on certain points during the assessment, the patient is asked to drink water and to urinate at predetermined intervals.

Important Instructions

- Maintain hydration as advised before and during the examination.
- Empty your bladder when instructed by the nuclear medicine team.
- Follow all instructions regarding medicines.
- Inform the team about pregnancy or breastfeeding.
- Bring previous renal reports and relevant medical records.
- Remain still and relaxed during imaging.
- Inform staff if you feel uncomfortable during the examination.
- Follow any post-scan instructions provided by the medical team.

Safety Precautions

A small quantity of radioactive tracer is used under medical supervision. By using protocols for radiation safety, the nuclear medicine team minimizes unnecessary radiation exposures required to gain suitable information for diagnosis. Patients must inform the medical team in advance about pregnancy, lactation, medication, allergies, and other relevant medical conditions. Follow any specific hydration, medication, or post-scan instructions as advised.

When to Seek Medical Attention?

Seek prompt medical attention for severe or persistent flank pain, inability to pass urine, blood in the urine, high fever, severe vomiting, or other sudden concerning urinary symptoms. At Molecular Diagnostics and Therapy, EC Renal is performed under trained specialist supervision using appropriate nuclear medicine protocols, with attention to accurate renal assessment and patient safety.