

CHALASIA SCAN

A chalasia (ka-LAY-sha) scan is a test that is done to find out why your child is vomiting or spitting up food. The test shows if the muscles of the esophagus (eh-SOF-uh-gus) and stomach are working properly. The scan is done in the Nuclear Medicine Department.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE TEST

- Before the test, your child should have nothing to eat or drink for 4 hours if your child is an infant and 8 hours if your child is over 2 years of age.
- If your child is an infant, please bring a bottle of formula with you. If your infant is breast-fed and does not drink formula, please bring breast milk with you (keep it in a cooler with ice packs).
- For an older child please bring 2 raw eggs. If your child is allergic to eggs bring oatmeal, yogurt or pudding. Please bring some other food for your child to eat to help fill their stomach. The eggs will be cooked in the department with the needed radioactive material.

HOW THE SCAN IS DONE

- If your child is an outpatient, you will be asked to help feed your child.
- If your child is a patient in the hospital and under 3 years of age, **or is an outpatient and is unable to drink** the formula or milk, a feeding tube will be placed into the stomach. This tube is passed through the nostril to the stomach and stays in place for only a short time.
- Before the test, your child will be placed on a “papoose board” and wrapped in soft blankets. This will help keep your child from moving around during the test. Your child will be placed on a long table that has a camera underneath it (Picture 1). If your child is old enough to hold still on his own, the papoose board will not be used.
- A tiny amount of radioactive material (that has about the same amount of radiation as a chest X-ray) will be added to the milk. If your child is an infant, his stomach will be filled with the milk by mouth or through the feeding tube. After the stomach is filled, the feeding tube will be removed.

For Outpatient Use Only

Child's name _____

APPOINTMENT:

Date _____

Procedure time _____

Please arrive 30 minutes before the procedure time to register.

Bring your child to:

- The Radiology Department Registration Desk, first floor of the main building of Children's Hospital.
- Other _____

If you need to cancel your appointment or reschedule, call (614) 722-6200.



Picture 1 Having a chalasia scan.

- Depending on your child's normal diet, your child may be given liquids only (milk, formula or juice), or liquids and solids (toast, eggs, pudding, applesauce). Talk with the nuclear medicine technologist if you have any concerns about what your child may eat or drink. Tell the technologist if your child cannot tolerate or is allergic to certain foods.
- A child over 3 years of age can usually drink the milk from a cup. Then the child must lie down on the table and stay very still. Many pictures will be taken of your child's esophagus and stomach as the milk goes through the digestive system.
- It will take about 2 hours for the test.

AFTER THE SCAN

- After the chalasia scan is over, your child may have his usual foods.
- Your doctor will tell you the results of the test and the plan of care.

If you have any questions, please ask your doctor or nurse, or call the Nuclear Medicine Department at (614) 722-2336.