Mag3 Renal Scan

In Nuclear Medicine

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Before your child’s appointment, please read this information.
You may choose what to share with your child.
Hi, my name is Max. I’m going to show you what it was like for me to have a Mag3 Renal Scan at Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospital.

Mag3 Renal Scans help doctors to look at our kidneys and see how they work. Kidneys kind of look like big jelly beans in our bellies and they make urine. Urine is pee.
On the day of my Mag3 Renal Scan, I arrived at the hospital with my mom. You might come with your mom, dad, or other family member. I walked through the entrance of the hospital and towards the Radiology Center. I waited in this area until it was my turn.
Your mom, dad or family member will fill out paperwork at the front desk, so you might want to bring something to keep you busy. I brought my iPad, but other kids bring books, videogames, an iPod or their favorite stuffed animal.
When my name was called we went to a room to get ready. I was given hospital pajamas to put on instead of my day clothes. They closed the door so I could dress in private.
Once I had my hospital pajamas on, I laid on the hospital bed in front of the TV with my mom standing next to me. The people taking care of me told me that we had to do some very important things before they could take my pictures.
There were some supplies on the cart next to the bed. I had to have a special medicine straw put into my vein. It had lots of tape and bandages to hold it in place.

They hooked a big bag of water to my medicine straw with a long tube. That was like drinking a lot of water really fast so my kidneys would be working at their best.
I had to have another straw that went into my urethra and bladder, which is where my pee comes out. This kept my pee draining into a diaper or container so the pee would not get in the way of my pictures.
I had to wait for 30 minutes to let some water drip into my medicine straw.

I got to sit up on the bed or in a chair and watch TV. I had a snack and something to drink.
When it was time to take my pictures, I went into the next room and laid on the table. They put seatbelts on me like I wear in the car to keep me safe and to remind me to hold still.

The camera was hiding under the table so it never touched me or made noise.

My mom got to sit in a chair right next to me and hold my hand the whole time.

It took a long time for my pictures but I got to watch a movie on the Ipad or listen to music.
When my pictures were all finished they took out my straws.
Since my scan was finished I got to change back into my day clothes.

I got a prize before I left because I was so brave!
We hope Max helped your child feel ready for their scan!

If you have any questions before your child’s appointment please call:

727-767-7700