

**SALMANIYA**  
**MEDICAL**  
**COMPLEX**



**RADIOLOGY**  
**DEPARTMENT**

**Having a Micturating**  
**Cystogram (MCUG)**

**Your Guide To The**  
**Procedure**

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Your doctor has requested that we should perform MCU examination on you. We hope this leaflet will answer some of the questions that you may have.

**WHAT IS A MICTURATING**  
**CYSTOGRAM (MCUG)?**

To demonstrate the bladder outline and ureteric reflux. The bladder is catheterized and any urine allowed to drain off. Contrast medium (dye) are then introduced via the catheter and films are taken in different positions.

**WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I**  
**ARRIVE AT X-RAY?**

*When you arrive, report to the clerical officer at the reception desk, they will then inform the radiographers of your arrival. You will be shown to a cubicle and asked to undress, putting on a white gown and a dressing gown. If it is for your child you will be sent to the ward for catheterization. Then return to the X-ray Department so the examination will begin.*

**WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE**  
**EXAMINATION?**

The radiologist will connect the catheter with contrast media. Once the contrast is over, a series of films are taken by the radiologist. Catheter is removed & you will be asked to pass urine in the mean time a series of films are taken.

If your child is old enough, he/she can either sit on a potty or stand up using a different container.

You are encouraged to take an active part in the test, to be with your child at all times, to play with and distract him/her.

Please feel free to bring a favorite toy, and a bottle of juice as a comforter.

**WHY IS IT DONE?**

You or your child may already have had a urine infection. These are always treated seriously in children, and an MCU is one test carried out to try and find the cause of the infection e.g. reflux.

### WHAT IS REFLUX?

As you can see from the diagram, urine flows from the kidneys, down the tubes, into the bladder and then to the outside. In some children, the tube entering the bladder does not shut properly. This causes some of the urine to pass back up through the tube and into the kidney. This is called REFLUX.

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO KNOW IF YOU OR YOUR CHILD HAS REFLUX?

Normally, urine inside the body is sterile (germ free). If there are any bacteria present they are quickly flushed out of the system.

However, with reflux, if bacteria are present some of them will be forced back up and into the kidneys. This creates a large risk of infection occurring together with some kidney damage. Urine infections can make your child quite unwell.

### WILL IT HURT?

It should not hurt, as we do our best to get you and your child's co-

operation. Be honest with your child, as it may be a little uncomfortable as the bladder is filled with contrast.

### HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

Please be prepared to be at the hospital for approximately one hour. The test itself takes from 30 to 40 minutes.

### ARE THERE ANY AFTER EFFECTS?

There should be no after effects. Once the examination is over you will be able to get dressed and go home.

### IS THE RADIATION DANGEROUS?

With modern equipment and techniques the radiation dose to you is minimal. It is very similar to that received from an X-ray examination.

### HOW WILL I GET THE RESULTS?

*Although the films taken during the procedure are checked before you leave the department, the Radiologist will need to study them*

*closely before making any comments. Once the radiologist has made his report, it will be typed and sent to X-ray office within one week. CPR must be shown when receiving X-rays results*

**LADIES:** If there is any possibility that you may be pregnant please phone the radiology department before attending the X-ray department.

### IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS:

The staff of the department would like your visit to be pleasant as possible. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us at any time before, during or after your examination.

Address for any communications to:  
Radiology Department, SMC, PO  
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[www.health.gov.bh](http://www.health.gov.bh)