



Exam Duration: Approximately 1 hour **IV Required?** Yes

Exam Preparation: Other nuclear exams performed within 2-3 days may interfere
It is preferred that patients be well hydrated prior to the exam

The Renal Flow and Function is an exam used to determine how well the kidneys filtering the blood supply. It may also be used to determine whether or not there is an obstruction blocking urine flow to the bladder.

Exam Procedure: Upon your arrival, a nuclear medicine technologist will explain the exam in detail and ask questions about your relevant medical history. An IV will be started in your arm and you will be positioned on an imaging table, flat on your back. Imaging is performed by a camera underneath the table, so there is generally no concern for claustrophobia-related anxiety issues during the test. You will receive an injection of a radioactive tracer as the acquisition begins; this tracer has no side effects. Imaging takes around 40 minutes.

Many physicians order the nuclear renal scan to be performed with a drug to stimulate diuresis, or the increased production of urine in the kidneys. In this case, you will receive an injection of Lasix halfway through the exam. In many patients, Lasix will increase the urge or need to urinate, but not in an uncontrollable way.

Once the exam is complete, the technologist will remove the IV from your arm and you will be free to go.

Notes: Patients are encouraged to bring an MP3 player and headphones if desired, as listening to music will not interfere with the exam.

Wear comfortable clothing to your appointment. You will not be required to change into a gown for this exam.

