

## **MEASUREMENT OF GLOMERULAR FILTRATION RATE (GFR)**

### **Purpose of the study**

The ability of the kidneys to filter blood is studied by measuring the filtration rate through glomeruli, which are capillary tufts in the kidneys.

### **Preparing for the study**

- Adult patients do not need to prepare for the study.
- Children are sent to the study from the paediatric medicine department after their height and weight have been measured and an intravenous catheter has been inserted for administering a tracer.

### **What to expect at the study**

You will receive a very small amount of radioactive tracer through a vein in your forearm. The tracer collects in the kidneys and then passes into the bladder. You will not sense the tracer.

We will take blood samples from the inner elbow of the other arm exactly two, three and four hours after administering the tracer. We will measure the amount of tracer activity in the samples and compare to the normal values.

### **Duration of the study**

The total time needed for the study, including the waiting times, is 4 hours. You will be allowed to leave the Nuclear Medicine Unit while waiting, but you should avoid physical strain.

### **Study results**

The study results will be provided by a referring doctor at the ward or clinic.

### **After the study**

The study will not have side-effects. The tracer has very low radioactivity, so the radiation you emit into your immediate environment will be negligible.

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