

## **Paediatric micturition cystography i.e. contrast imaging of a child's urinary tract**

The examination looks at the structure of the bladder and urethra and whether the child has backflow of urine, i.e. reflux from the bladder to the kidneys.

### **How to prepare for the procedure?**

No preliminary preparations are needed for the study. If the child has had a urinary tract infection, the procedure is usually performed after four weeks, at the earliest. In addition, it is required that a urine sample shows that there is no infection in the bladder.

### **How is the procedure done?**

The procedure is performed with the help of the X-Ray fluoroscopy. A thin plastic tube, or catheter is placed in the child's urethra in order to get the contrast medium into the bladder. An anaesthetic gel is applied to the opening of the urethra before inserting the catheter. The bladder is then filled with an iodine-containing contrast medium through a catheter.

During the procedure, the Radiologist takes X-rays of the urinary tract area. Our department babysitter is often involved in assisting with procedure. It is good if one of the parents can be involved, but not if you are pregnant. The procedure usually takes about 60 minutes.

### **What about after the procedure?**

A bladder catheter may irritate the bladder. Good aftercare includes drinking lots of fluids, which helps reduce irritation. It is rare that there is a burning sensation in the urine or irritation of the bladder in the evening after the examination or later. However, if the symptoms persist, you should contact the referring doctor. The referring unit is responsible for reporting the results of the procedure.