Your child is scheduled for a Renal Scan on __________________ at __________________.

Please report to TC100 in Mitchell Hospital 20 minutes before your appointment time to register for the test.

ABOUT THE TEST
A Renal Scan is used to measure the function of the kidneys. A radioactive tracer is used for the test. It will be injected into a vein in your child’s hand or arm. The amount of radiation used in this test is small, and well within limits that are safe. You will be at the medical center about 1-2 hours.

NOTE: Patients who are pregnant or may be pregnant should consult their physician before having this test.

PREPARATION FOR THE TEST
Your child should drink plenty of water before having this test. If your child is less than 5 years old, your child may need to be sedated and catheterized for the test. The use of sedation will be decided by your child’s doctor. We will coordinate the schedule with our highly skilled pediatric sedation team. The sedation team will advise you of any restrictions for the sedation.

HOW IS THE TEST PERFORMED?
When you arrive in the Nuclear Medicine Department, a technologist will confirm your child’s identity and ask questions about their medical history. He/she will explain the test to you and answer any questions you may have. The technologist will help your child lie down on an imaging table. He/She will start an intravenous line (IV) in your child’s hand or arm. A registered nurse may assist if your child is either very young or has difficulty with IV access. The technologist will position your child over a special camera. He/She will inject the tracer through the IV and take pictures at the same time. Pictures of your child’s kidneys and bladder will be taken for 30 minutes. It is important that your child remain very still while the pictures are being taken. After 30 minutes the technologist will review the pictures with a physician. If the tracer remains in your child’s kidneys, the physician may ask the technologist to give your child Lasix through the IV. Lasix will increase your child’s urine output and can give the physician valuable information. If Lasix is given, the technologist will take pictures for another 30 minutes. At the end of 30 minutes the technologist will ask your child to empty his/her bladder. He/she will ask your child to sit in front of the camera and he/she will take one more picture of your child’s kidneys and bladder. A physician will review all the images and you will be released from the department. There are no side effects from the injection.

AFTER THE TEST
Your child may resume his/her normal activities and diet after the test. A Nuclear Medicine physician will interpret the exam and the results will be sent to the ordering physician. If you have any questions about the test or cannot keep the appointment, please call the Nuclear Medicine scheduling staff at 773-795-9723.