You are scheduled for a Renal Scan on: ____________ at ________________.

Please arrive in TC100 20 minutes before to your appointment time to register for the procedure.

What is a Renal Scan?
A renal scan is a nuclear medicine procedure in which a small amount of radioactive material is injected into a vein in your hand or arm in order to measure the function of your kidneys. The amount of radiation used in this test is small, and well within limits that are safe. The test typically takes 1-2 hours.

How to prepare for the exam:
There are no restrictions for driving, drinking, eating or working. It is necessary to drink plenty of water before having this test. We recommend drinking two 8 ounce glasses of water the morning of your procedure.

How is the exam performed?
The technologist will greet you and confirm your identity. He/She will then ask you to lie on an imaging table on your back with a camera underneath you. You will be injected with a small amount of a radioactive tracer in a vein in your hand or arm. The tracer travels through your body and is removed from your bloodstream by your kidneys.

How long does it take?
Pictures of your kidneys and bladder will be taken continuously for 30 minutes. It is important to remain very still during imaging. After 30 minutes the technologist will review the images with a physician and determine whether or not to give lasix. Lasix increases your urine output and can give the physician valuable information. If lasix is given, the technologist will take additional pictures for another 30 minutes. At the end of 30 minutes the technologist will ask you to empty your bladder. You will be asked to sit in front of the camera and one more picture of your kidneys and bladder will be taken. A physician will review all the images and you will be released from the department.

NOTE: If you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant please tell your physician or make the scheduler aware of your condition. The Nuclear Medicine physician will need to be made aware of any patients that are pregnant or nursing.

After the Test
You may resume your normal activities and diet after the test. A Nuclear Medicine physician will interpret the exam and the results sent to the ordering physician. If you have any questions about the procedure or cannot keep the appointment, please call the Nuclear Medicine scheduling staff at 773-795-9723.