Renal Scan / Renal Scan with Vasotec or Lasix

What is a Renal Scan?
Renal scanning, also known as renal scintigraphy, refers to several nuclear medicine tests using radioisotopes that evaluate the function and anatomy of the kidneys. Each type of renal scan involves the injection of small amounts of radioactive material into the patient. After injection, the radiotracer eventually accumulates in the kidneys, where it gives off energy in the form of gamma rays. A specialized camera then measures the amount of radiotracer absorbed by the body and forms images that provide details on both the structure and function of organs and tissues.

CPT Codes
78708 Lasix or Vasotec

Indications
Transplant-related complications, kidney injury, hypertension, R/O obstruction, blood in urine.
Lasix: Evaluation of renal function, evaluation of obstruction.
Vasotec: Hypertension.

Contraindications
Pregnancy.

How Does The Patient Prepare?
The patient should inform the physician and technologist of any allergies, medications taken, recent illnesses or other medical conditions. Women should always inform their physician or technologist if there is any possibility that they are pregnant or if they are breastfeeding. Jewelry and other metallic substances will be removed.
Renal Scan / Lasix: Hold regular morning dose of diuretics. Take Lasix 20-40 mg with normal breakfast. Encourage extra morning fluid intake.
Renal Scan / Vasotec: Off ACE inhibitors 48 hours prior to exam. Off other BP meds 24 hours prior to exam. Hold regular morning dose of diuretics. Normal breakfast. Encourage extra morning fluid intake.

What Happens During the Test?
Prior to imaging, the patient will be injected with a small amount of radiotracer. Depending on the type of scan, imaging may begin while the tracer is being administered, or delayed imaging may take place. The patient will lie on the scanning table, changing positions as needed, while the specialized camera obtains images of kidney function. Depending on the type of procedure, renal imaging can last from 30 minutes to one hour.

After the Test
Unless instructed otherwise, the patient may resume normal activities after the exam.

The Results
A radiologist will analyze the images and send a signed report to the referring physician within one business day.

(Information adapted from www.radiologyinfo.org)

This information is intended for use as merely a guideline for referring physicians and their staff members only. It contains information pertaining to the most commonly ordered exams and indications.
However, Shawnee Mission Medical Center Radiology does not recommend any particular examination. Individual radiologist preference or patient circumstances may dictate ordering alternative studies. Although contrast codes are not needed to place an order, the following contrast codes may be used in placing orders:

CT Contrast Q9967, MRI contrast A9577 and A9579.