Bladder Scan

Children’s Continence Clinic

If you require this information in a different format such as in large print or on audio tape, or in a different language please contact the service on the details above.

If you have any compliments about this service or suggestions for improvements, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service on 0300 131 1000 (charges may apply depending on your network) or email: ccs-tr.pals@nhs.net.

For free, confidential health advice and information 24 hours a day, 365 days a year please contact NHS 111.
Bladder scan appointment

What is a bladder scan?

A bladder scan takes pictures of your bladder using ultrasound waves. You will not be able to feel anything but the ultrasound pulses are sent through the skin to your body; they then bounce back to create an image.

What do I need to do?

You will have been asked to come to your appointment with a full bladder and not to have a wee. This is important because if the bladder is not full we may not be able to do the scan.

You will need to lie on a couch fully dressed. The nurse will lift up your top to see your tummy.

Some lubricating gel will be put on your tummy so that the ultrasound probe can glide gently over your tummy to find a good image of your bladder.

You will then need to go and empty your bladder and then the scan will be repeated.

Why am I having a bladder scan?

For some people they are doing lots of little wees many times a day or having wetting accidents. The bladder scan checks that your bladder is working correctly. The scan can show how much urine your bladder can hold and if it empties fully when you go to the toilet.

The nurse will tell you straight away what she discovers and make a Plan of care with you and your parent/carer.