Information for Parents
About
Kidney Ultrasound

How is the test scheduled?
If you have a health maintenance organization (HMO) for your insurance, you will need to get a referral from your primary care physician for the ultrasound. We will send a letter to your doctor explaining our recommendations. Call your doctor's office in 4-5 days to get the referral. If you are not covered by an HMO, you can schedule the ultrasound today with one of the representatives at the front desk. If you would rather make the appointment at a later time, call 708-216-0170.

Where will the ultrasound be performed?
If you have an HMO, your primary care physician will tell you where the test will be performed. At Loyola, all kidney ultrasounds for children are done on the first lower level in the Russo Pavilion (see map) at the medical center (2160 First Avenue, Maywood, IL).

How is the ultrasound done?
The skin over the kidneys and bladder is covered with a special liquid. A transducer (special tool that can measure sound waves) is used to take pictures the kidneys and bladder. No x-rays are used.

What might the ultrasound show?
Ultrasound is an excellent way to see this size and shape of the kidneys. It can show enlargement of the drain system (hydronephrosis). Ultrasound can also show if there is normal blood flow to a kidney. However, ultrasounds cannot show how well her kidney filters blood.

How will I get the results of the ultrasound?
Our office will receive the report of the ultrasound within two days of the testing. Call Anne Casaccio, R.N. (708-216-5111) for the report. If you would like a copy of the printed report for your records, let us know and we can provide one.

Can't I just ask the ultrasound people for the results?
No. Although the ultrasound department is expert at the testing, it is our responsibility to provide reports to you. Please feel free to ask us any questions about the testing.

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