



## RENAL COLIC

This brochure tells you about Renal Colic and how it is diagnosed, including what Imaging tests you may need to have.

### What is Renal Colic?

Renal colic is pain caused by stones in your kidney, renal pelvis or ureter (the tubes that takes urine from the kidneys to the bladder). The stones start off as a tiny speck of material in the kidney. They are usually flushed out of the kidney but can stay in there for years and may grow bigger. The pain is caused when your body tries to get rid of the stone(s) through the ureter.

Symptoms of Renal Colic are:

- Pain – starts suddenly and is usually severe – usually in your side or back
- Nausea and vomiting - sometimes
- Small amount of blood in your urine – may not be able to see this

### Diagnosis:

You would normally need a CT scan for diagnosis. The CT scan can be done using a low dose of radiation. Sometimes your doctor may request an x-ray, Ultrasound or Intravenous Pyelogram (IVP).

### Results:

A radiology doctor will look at your scan(s) and write a report for your doctor.

### Further Information

For more detailed information, please see [Inside Radiology](#), a resource produced especially for consumers by the [Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists](#).

If you would like to look at other relevant brochures, please see

- [Plain x-ray](#)
- [Ultrasound](#)
- [Intravenous Pyelogram](#)
- [CT Scan](#)
- [Radiation risks of x-rays and scans](#)

Or log into the Diagnostic Imaging Pathways website - [www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au/includes/consumer.html](http://www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au/includes/consumer.html)

or

If you have questions or require any further information please contact your doctor or speak to the staff where you are going to have your procedure.

## Consumer Participation

This information has been reviewed by representatives from the following groups:

- Aboriginal people
- People with disabilities
- Seniors
- CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse)
- The Health Consumers' Council.

## Feedback

The Division of Imaging Services, Royal Perth Hospital is committed to providing a friendly and professional service. If you would like to provide feedback on this information sheet, please send to:

Quality Coordinator  
Imaging Services  
Royal Perth Hospital  
GPO Box X2213  
Perth WA 6000

### Website

For more information go to [www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au](http://www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au)

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