



Kids Brain Doc

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Common Imaging Tests

Patient Packet

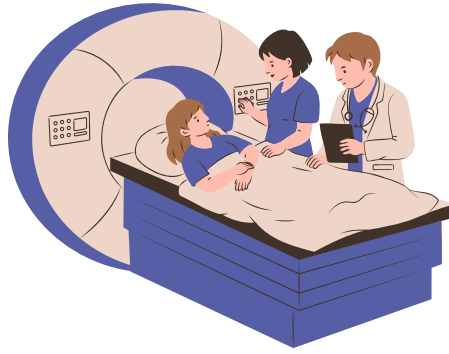


Common Imaging Tests



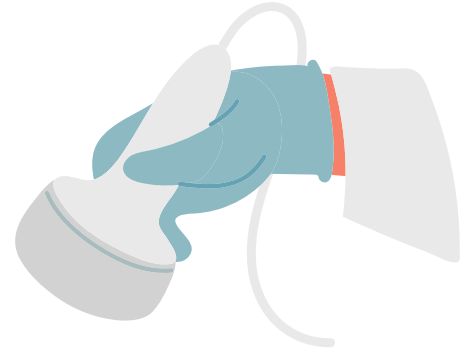
| CT

A quick, detailed X-ray that shows bones, brain, and bleeding in the head.



| MRI

A detailed scan using magnets to show the brain, spinal cord, and nerves without radiation.



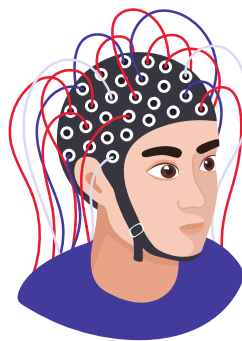
| Ultrasound

A safe, painless test using sound waves to check the spinal cord or the brain in babies, with soft spots still open.



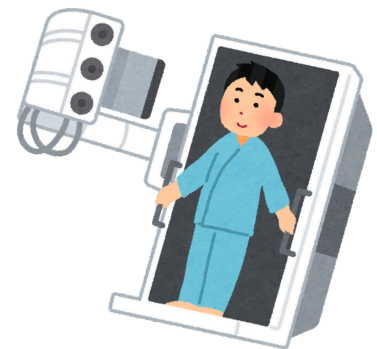
| X-Rays

A quick image that shows the bones of the spine to check for fractures, alignment issues, or abnormalities.



| EEG

A test that checks your child's brain waves to see if they're having seizures or unusual brain activity.



| Shunt Series

Set of X-rays that checks the placement and condition of a shunt from the brain to the belly (or wherever the shunt drains into)

Prepare for Imaging

1 Explain What to Expect

- Use simple words to explain what the images do:
"The camera takes pictures of your brain while you lay still like a statue."
- Show pictures or a video of the scanner, if available



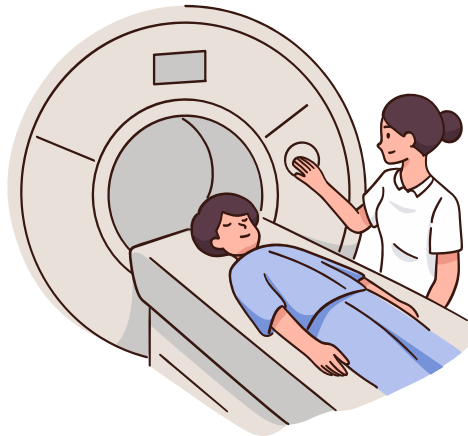
4 Bring Comfort Items

- Allow them to bring a favorite stuffed animal, blanket, or toy (if permitted)
- Some facilities allow them to wear their own comfy clothes (no metal)



2 Practice Staying Still

- Practice at home by timing how long your child can stay still, gradually building up time
- Make it a game: "Statue Challenge!" to keep it fun



5 Prepare for Sedation (if needed)

- Follow instructions exactly (no food or drink for a few hours before)
- Let your child know the medicine helps them nap through the pictures

3 Address Fears Gently

- Reassure them it won't hurt: "It may be loud, but you'll have headphones."
- Let them know you (or someone they can trust) will be nearby



6 Plan a Reward

- Promise a treat, activity, or small reward afterward
- Praise their bravery and courage no matter how it goes

