

IAEA/ESNM Webinar Series on Paediatric NM

Nuclear Medicine Evaluation of gastroesophageal reflux and pulmonary aspiration in children

Target audience

Nuclear medicine specialists and residents interested in pediatric nuclear medicine providing services to pediatricians, gastroenterologists and pulmonologists. Radiologists involved in pediatric care may also benefit from this webinar.

Description

The pathogenesis, clinical presentations and complications of gastroesophageal reflux, gastroesophageal reflux disease and pulmonary aspiration in children are presented. Diagnostic imaging methods are discussed. The focus of the webinar is on two scintigraphic studies, gastroesophageal reflux scintigraphy (the “milk scan”) and the radionuclide salivagram. These studies have a central role in the evaluation of these conditions. The preparations for these studies, tracer administration techniques and imaging protocols are presented. Typical findings interpretation criteria and pitfalls are discussed. Clinical cases with typical scintigraphic findings of gastroesophageal reflux, aspiration of gastric contents and aspiration of saliva are shown. The clinical significance of these findings is emphasized. The strengths and limitations of gastroesophageal reflux scintigraphy and the radionuclide salivagram in comparison to alternative radiological tests are discussed.