

## Contact us

If you have any queries or need any further information, please contact the Nuclear Medicine department on 01872 252330.

If for any reason you cannot attend, please inform the department so that another patient can have your appointment.

## Kidney clearance test (GFR)

If you would like this leaflet in large print, braille, audio version or in another language, please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01872 252793



### **Who is this leaflet for?**

Your doctor would like you to have a nuclear medicine kidney function test and has arranged for you to visit our department.

Please read this leaflet carefully as it contains important information about your test.

### **What is a kidney function test?**

This is a sensitive test that shows how well your kidneys are working.

### **How is the test carried out?**

A small injection of a radioactive tracer will be injected into your arm shortly after you arrive. The injection is harmless and you will have no side effects.

Blood samples will be taken at 2, 3 and 4 hours after the injection. The radiographer will discuss the return time with you. The whole test will take around 4-5 hours to complete.

### **Do I need to prepare for the test?**

Yes. Please do not have any tea, coffee or energy drinks from 10pm on the day before the test. Have only a light breakfast on the day of your test and avoid heavy exercise.

Keep taking your prescribed medication but please bring a list with you.

### **Is there anything I should tell the staff before the injection?**

If there is a chance you may be pregnant or are breast feeding, please contact us before your appointment date. If you are a woman of childbearing age you will be asked to confirm that you are not pregnant. If there is any doubt we will have to rebook your test.

If you have any special requirements regarding manual handling or if you suffer from urinary incontinence please inform us before you attend for your appointment so that we can make suitable arrangements to help you.

### **What can I do between the injection and the blood samples?**

You can leave the hospital or stay with us and either buy a snack from the hospital or bring a light lunch with you.

### **Are there any risks?**

No. We ensure that the amount of radiation you receive is as small as possible. It is similar to the natural radiation dose you would receive from living in Cornwall for less than a day.

### **Are there any side effects?**

No.

### **Should I take any precautions?**

No.

### **Can I bring someone with me?**

Yes, but please do not bring pregnant women or children unless they are the patient.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you need any more information.

### **When will I get my results?**

We are unable to give you the results of your test on the day you attend. We will send a report to the doctor who asked us to do the test as soon as possible. If a hospital consultant arranged your test, a follow up appointment should be sent to you in due course.

### **Where can I park?**

Parking is in the pay and display car parks. There are 'dropping off' points and parking for the disabled near the main entrances.

Please allow plenty of time when coming for your appointment. The Park and Ride bus from Threemilestone also stops at the hospital.

### **Where is the Nuclear Medicine department?**

We are located in the basement of the Tower Block. On reaching the basement follow the signs to Nuclear Medicine, which is at the end of the corridor past Medical Physics.