

## Where will I park?

You may arrive by public transport but please ensure you have someone to drive you home afterwards.

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 Langarth Park (Threemilestone) and Tregurra Park (east Truro) which operates a frequent bus service to the Hospital.

[www.cornwall.gov.uk/parkfortruro](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/parkfortruro)

Please allow plenty of time when coming for your appointment.

## Where is the Nuclear Medicine Department?

The department is 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.

## 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 let us know so that another patient can have your appointment.

Please note that the Royal Cornwall Hospital is a smoke-free environment. Smoking is not permitted inside the hospital or on the grounds at any time.

If you would like this leaflet in large print, braille, audio version or in another language, please contact the General Office on 01872 252690



## Hida scan with morphine provocation



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

Your doctor would like you to have a nuclear medicine Hida scan and has arranged for you to visit our department. This leaflet aims to answer any questions you may have, however please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any more information.

### **What is a Hida scan?**

This is a sensitive test which is used to examine your biliary system.

### **What is morphine provocation?**

We inject a small amount of morphine at the beginning of the scan to stimulate the Sphincter of Oddi (a valve at the end of the common bile duct). This will let your doctor know how this valve is functioning.

### **How is the Hida scan carried out?**

Shortly after you arrive in the department you will be taken into the scanning room, where you will be asked to lie on your back for the scan.

### **Are there any alternatives?**

You could have an ultrasound scan, although you may need this as well as your Hida scan.

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

Yes. Please do not eat anything for six hours before your appointment time but you may drink water.

We would advise you to wear loose and comfortable clothing. Please bring any prescribed medication with you to take after the scan has been performed. If you are diabetic please ring the department when you receive this appointment.

Please bring someone with you who will be able to drive you home after the scan.

### **How is the scan performed?**

You will be asked to lie on a bed. We will attach monitoring equipment before we give you a small radioactive injection. This will be followed by a small injection of morphine which will be given by a doctor. The scan will take about 80 minutes, while the radiographer takes pictures. The camera will be positioned close to you but you should not feel claustrophobic.

### **Is it suitable for everyone?**

If there is a chance that you may be pregnant or you are breast feeding, please contact the department before your appointment date. If you are a woman of childbearing age we will be ask you to confirm that you are not pregnant.

### **What happens afterwards?**

You can go home but are advised **not to drive**. You may eat and drink as usual and take any prescribed medication.

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

No, we will 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 four months.

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

No, the radioactivity is eliminated from your body very quickly.

### **Can I bring someone with me to the department?**

You will need to bring someone to drive you home afterwards, but please do not bring pregnant women, or children unless they are the patient.

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.

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

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