

Nuclear Medicine

Cardiac Gated Blood Pool Scan

What is this leaflet for?

This leaflet will help you get ready for your visit to the Nuclear Medicine Department. Please read the information and call us if you have any questions. We are happy to help.

What is a Cardiac gated blood pool scan?

A cardiac gated blood pool scan, also known as a MUGA scan (multiple gated acquisition), is a nuclear medicine test that checks how well your heart is pumping blood around your body.

Please call us as soon as possible if:

- You are pregnant or think you might be pregnant
- You are breastfeeding
- You have diabetes
- You need any special help
- You will be using ambulance transport for your appointment, and it is after 12:00 noon
- you don't live in your own private home, like a care home

Telephone: 024 7696 8212

Monday to Friday: 09:00am to 5.00pm



Patient Information

How should you prepare?

You can eat, drink, and take your medication as you usually do.

Please plan to be at your appointment for 2 hours.

What will happen when you attend for your scan?

The test involves two small injections about 20 minutes apart which will usually go into a vein in your arm or hand. When you get to the department, we will first weigh you and then give your first injection. This injection makes sure your red blood cells will attach to the second injection. The second injection has a small amount of radioactive material to let us take an image of the blood flow in your heart. Neither injection should make you feel any different.

After the injection, try to avoid spending too much time close to small kids or pregnant people for the rest of the day. You can still care for them.

It is very unlikely that you will feel any side-effects after the scan, but if you do, please let us know.

What happens when the pictures are taken?

When you go into the camera room, you will need to take off any metal objects you are carrying or wearing, like necklaces and chains. You will not need take off all your clothes, but if you are wearing a bra, you will need to take that off.

We will attach ECG electrodes to your chest. You will need to raise your arms while we take pictures. A special machine called a gamma camera will come close to you and stay there while it takes pictures. This scan will take about 20 minutes.

You will wait for a few minutes while we process and check your pictures. We will tell you when this is complete and you can leave. We cannot talk about the results right away. The doctor who asked for the scan will usually get the results in one working week.

Patient Information

How much radiation will you receive?

This examination exposes you to ionising radiation. The total amount of radiation is 6.4 mSv(millisievert). 6.4 mSv is about the same amount of natural radiation you get living in the UK for 2 years and 5 months.

Your doctor has recommended this scan because the benefit outweighs the very low risk of harm. The risk of getting cancer because of this radiation is around 1 person in 3125. This is very small compared with the 1 in 2 risk of someone getting cancer naturally in their lifetime.

Directions and Car Parking

The Nuclear Medicine department is a short walk from the main entrance on the ground floor. When you enter the hospital through the main entrance, turn left to go into the West wing. Follow the signs for X-ray along the corridor, and you'll find X-ray on the left, just after the Fracture Clinic. Go to the X-ray reception and walk straight ahead. Follow signs for Nuclear Medicine. You will go through the double doors and enter the main reception area of the department.

There is parking available for patients and visitors, but spaces can be limited, so it is a good idea to arrive early. There is a charge for parking, and automatic number plate recognition systems are in use. For more details about directions, parking charges, and site maps, visit the trust website at (www.uhcw.nhs.uk).

Facilities available in the hospital

- Chilled water dispenser in the department.
- Costa Coffee, M&S and WHSmith in the main reception foyer.
- Three hospital restaurants.

What if you still have questions?

If you have any questions or concerns, we're here to help. Call the person who referred you for this treatment or call Nuclear Medicine.

Patient Information

The Nuclear Medicine department is open:

Monday to Friday: 09:00 to 17:00.

Call: 024 7696 8212

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format, please contact 024 7696 8212 and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke-free policy.

Did we get it right?

We would like you to tell us what you think about our services. This will help us make further improvements and recognise members of staff who provide a good service.



Have your say. Scan the QR code or visit:

www.uhcw.nhs.uk/feedback

Document History

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