

Nuclear Medicine

Renogram 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 Renogram?

A Renogram is a scan that helps doctors look at your kidneys. It shows how well your kidneys are working and if urine is flowing into the bladder without any problems.

Please call us as soon as possible if:

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

Telephone: 024 7696 8212

Monday to Friday: 9am to 5pm



How should you prepare?

- Call us if you take diuretic medication.
- Take any other medication as normal.
- Have plenty to drink before your appointment (non-alcoholic) unless your doctor has told you to restrict your fluid intake.
- Eat as normal.

Plan to be at your appointment for 2 hours.

What will happen when you come for your scan?

Before your scan, we will ask you to drink a few cups of water so that you are well hydrated. You don't need a full bladder for the scan so you can go to the toilet if you need to. We will ask you to empty your bladder just before the scan.

For the scan you will lie on a special scanning bed. A small injection with a radioactive tracer will be given through a vein. The scan will start right after the injection and will take about 25 minutes. You will need to lie still while the gamma camera takes a series of pictures as the tracer moves through your kidneys.

Sometimes, a second injection is needed, either at the start, in the middle, or 15 minutes before the test. This injection is a diuretic, which makes your kidneys work harder, so you might need to pass urine more often or urgently for a few hours. The effect of the diuretic will wear off after a few hours.

Whilst the pictures are being taken a member of staff will always be able to see you.

What happens after the scan?

You will wait for a few minutes while the images are checked. You might need to have another picture taken about 30 to 60 minutes after the first picture has finished. If you need this extra picture, we will let you know at

the time. You will need to wait in the department until this extra picture is taken. This picture will only take about 5 minutes.

When all the pictures have been taken, you can leave. We cannot discuss the results with you. The doctor who requested the test usually gets the results within 10 working days.

How much radiation will you receive?

This examination exposes you to ionising radiation. The amount of radiation is 0.56 mSv(millisievert). 0.56 mSv is about the same amount of natural radiation you get living in the UK for 73 days.

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 7 in 2500 people. 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 area.
- 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.

The Nuclear Medicine department is open:

Monday to Friday: 9am to 5pm.

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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