

Renal Services

Peritoneal equilibration test (PET)

CAPD – continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis

APD – automated peritoneal dialysis

PD – peritoneal dialysis

What is a PET?

A peritoneal equilibration test (PET) is a test performed in the Peritoneal Dialysis (PD) Unit. We use the test to determine how your peritoneum membrane transports the glucose solution (PD fluid), excess fluid and toxins. This, combined with the peritoneal function test (PFT), allows the PD team to make sure you're receiving the most adequate dialysis.

The test categorises the type of transporter you are and indicates what modality would be better for your transporter type.

How often do I need to do a PET?

Routinely this test is performed once a year. After completing PD training, you should have a PET performed within 6 weeks of commencing dialysis.

The PD department will contact you before you're due each year to arrange the test.



How do I perform a PET?

If you're on automated peritoneal dialysis (APD), the PD team will ask you to use a 2.27% (green) bag as your last fill for the longest dwell instead of using an icodextrin (purple/pink) bag.

If you do continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (CAPD), the PD team will ask you to use the green bag at bedtime.

The fluid must be in your abdomen for at least 8 hours before the test. If you're on CAPD, the PD team will ask you **not to drain out or do an exchange on the day of the test** but to attend the department with the green bag in your abdomen.

If you're on APD, you may need to go onto the machine slightly earlier. This allows time for at least an 8-hour dwell by the time you come to your appointment in the afternoon.

Unlike the peritoneal function test, this is a longer test, and you're required to be in the hospital for approximately 5 hours. When you arrive, the team will perform an exchange and take a sample of your fluid. You'll then need to have further samples at 2 hours, together with blood tests, and then at 4 hours.

You can go home after the 4-hour sample is taken.

What happens with my results?

The PD team will collect and analyse the results of your fluid samples and blood tests. They will file the results of the test in your folder.

You will not be contacted with the results unless there is a need to change dialysis modalities or adjust your current regime. All changes are discussed with the PD consultant.

What if I cannot make my appointment?

If you're unable to attend your appointment, please contact the PD department on 02476 968 308 to inform them and rearrange.

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format, please contact the PD department on 024 7696 8308 and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke-free policy.

Did we get it right?

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Document History

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