

Nuclear Medicine Meckels Scan

Your doctor would like you to have a Nuclear Medicine scan and has arranged for you to visit our department. We would like your visit to be as pleasant as possible and hope this leaflet will answer some of the questions you may have. Should you have any questions regarding your appointment please contact us on one of the telephone numbers below between 9:00am and 5.00pm Monday- Friday.

0300 131 4797 or 0300 131 5853

WHAT IS A MECKELS SCAN?

This is an examination using a radioactive tracer to localise a Meckels diverticulum. A Meckels diverticulum is a pouch on the wall of the lower part of the intestine that is present at birth (congenital). The diverticulum may contain tissue that is the same as tissue of the stomach or pancreas. Symptoms may include bleeding, mild pain and anaemia. Images of the distribution of the tracer are taken using a Gamma Camera.

IS THE SCAN SAFE?

The amount of radiation you receive is as small as possible and is similar to other X-ray procedures. The radioactivity leaves the body very quickly and it will not make you feel sick or sleepy.

DO I NEED TO PREPARE FOR THE SCAN?

You will also need to take some tablets (Omeprazole) which increase the accuracy of the scan. Please call the department to arrange collection. – These should be taken the day before the scan, and on the **morning** of the scan. Do not have anything to eat or drink for 6 hours before your appointment. You should wear loose fitting comfortable clothing.

IS THERE ANYTHING I SHOULD TELL THE STAFF BEFORE THE SCAN?

Women should tell us as soon as possible after receiving this appointment if they are pregnant, if they think they may be pregnant or if they are breast-feeding. Women between the ages of 12 and 60 will be asked to sign a form on the day of their test to confirm their pregnancy status. If there is any doubt then by law we have to perform a pregnancy test before we can do the test.

WHAT IS INVOLVED?

You will be asked to empty your bladder just before your scan and to remove any items containing metal and to empty your pockets. The scan involves taking pictures while you lie on a bed. The camera is placed close to your abdomen and is not over your face. You will be given a small injection in a vein in your arm or hand. The injection is a radioactive tracer that is used to identify a Meckels Diverticulum. We do not expect you to have any side effects to the injection. Your scan will begin immediately after the injection and will last approximately 1 hour. It is important you keep very still during your scan.

PRECAUTIONS AFTER THE INJECTION

You should avoid prolonged close contact with pregnant women and children for 24 hours. Children and pregnant women should not accompany you to the department. You should also avoid blood tests and dental visits during this time. If you are planning to travel abroad within 7 days after your appointment please inform the staff during your appointment.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTER THE SCAN IS COMPLETED?

You can go home or to work. You can drive a car and eat and drink normally.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE RESULTS?

We cannot give you the results of your test. We will send a report to the doctor who asked for the scan as soon as possible.

CONSENT

Although you consent for this treatment, you may at any time after that withdraw such consent. Please discuss this with your medical team.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

British Nuclear Medicine Society (BNMS)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information in this leaflet is for guidance purposes only and is not provided to replace professional clinical advice from a qualified practitioner.

YOUR COMMENTS

We are always interested to hear your views about our leaflets. If you have any comments, please contact the Patient Experience Team – Tel: 0300 131 4731 or email: esh-tr.patientexperience@nhs.net

HAND HYGIENE

The Trust is committed to maintaining a clean, safe environment. Hand hygiene is very important in controlling infection. Alcohol gel is widely available for staff use and at the entrance of each clinical area for visitors to clean their hands before and after entering.

OTHER FORMATS

If you require any of the Trust leaflets in alternative formats, such as large print or alternative languages, please contact the Equality and Human Rights Department.

Tel: 0300 131 4434 Email: esh-tr.AccessibleInformation@nhs.net

After reading this information are there any questions you would like to ask? Please list below and ask a member of our team.

Reference

The following clinicians have been consulted and agreed this patient information:

Dr Emma Owens, Consultant Radiologist, ESHT

Dr David Sallomi, Consultant Radiologist, ESHT

The directorate group that have agreed this patient information leaflet:

Core Services

Next review date: October 2024

Responsible clinician/author: Mr Christopher Salt, Nuclear Medicine Modality Manager

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