

Royal Brompton & Harefield



NHS Foundation Trust

Royal Marsden Hospital and
Royal Brompton Hospital

Your nuclear medicine
**glomerular
filtration rate
(GFR) / EDTA test**



This leaflet is a general guide to your test. It does not replace the information and individual advice we give you in person. Please ask if you have any questions about this leaflet.

What is nuclear medicine?

Nuclear medicine is a special way of testing for specific conditions. Before your test, you will be injected with a tracer, which is a substance with a small amount of radioactivity. This tracer shows up in the test and this highlights your kidney function.

About your GFR / EDTA test

You will be injected with EDTA which acts as the tracer to show how well your kidneys are working. Depending on the information needed from the test, we will ask you to return to the department for a blood test:

- three hours after the injection; or
- at two, three and four hours after the injection.

The technician doing the test will let you know when you need to return. If you require other blood tests on the day, we may do these at the same time.

Appointment information

All appointments are made for 9.15am. This means that you may have to wait for a short period before you have your injection. Timing is very important for a successful GFR test and this system tries to ensure we waste as little time as possible.

We see many patients each day in our department. We will always try and keep to your appointment as closely as possible. If you are late or if there is an emergency at the hospital, it may not be possible to perform your scan immediately.

Points to remember on the day

- Please drink several cups of fluid on the morning of your test. These can be tea, coffee, water or any drink of choice.
- There is no restriction on the food you can eat.
- To avoid exposing children unnecessarily to radiation, please do not bring them with you to the department.

Is there any risk from the radiation?

The amount of radiation used in the test is small and kept to an absolute minimum. We believe that the benefits of having the test far outweigh any risks. To avoid exposing children unnecessarily to radiation, please do not bring them with you to the department. We aim to make sure that every patient fully understands the risks and benefits of the procedure. Please ask if you have any questions.

Are there any side effects?

There are not any known side effects.

Female patients

You should not have a nuclear medicine test if you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant. Please tell us before your test if you think you might be pregnant, if you are breastfeeding or if you have very young children.

People with diabetes

You do not need to change your diet or treatment. Please bring your insulin with you and if you need to eat while you are with us, you should also bring a snack.

Medicines

For most tests there is no need to change any regular treatment. If you would like information about any medication you may be given during the test, please contact us. You can also talk to the technician before your appointment.

After your test

You can eat and drink as usual and continue with your normal daily activities after your scan. Avoid unnecessary radiation exposure to children by limiting the amount of time you are in close contact with them for the rest of the day. The substance we use for your injection will not make you sleepy and it will not stop you from driving a car.

Results

We will send your results to the hospital consultant who asked for the test.

How to find us

When you arrive for your appointment, you will first have to sign in at outpatients on the first floor in Wallace Wing, The Royal Marsden Hospital, Fulham Road. The technician will then call you to the EDTA room on the second floor for your test.

Ambulance

If you need an ambulance to bring you to us, please ask your family doctor to arrange this.

Contact us

If you have any questions about your test or would like to change your appointment, please call us on 020 7351 8666.

If you have concerns about any aspect of the service you have received in hospital and feel unable to talk to those people responsible for your care, call PALS on 020 7349 7715 or email pals@rbht.nhs.uk. This is a confidential service.

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إذا كنت ترغب في الحصول على ترجمة فورية لمضمون هذه الوثيقة إلى اللغة العربية، يرجى منك الاتصال بأحد مستخدمينا بجناح المصلحة التي يتم فيها استشفائك. أحد موظفينا سيسعى لترتيب إجراءات الترجمة وإتمامها في الوقت المناسب لك.

Brosürteki bilginin Türkçe tercümesi için tedavi görüyor olduğunuz bölüme bas vurunuz. Bölüm personeli tercümenin gerçekleşmesini en kısa zamanda ayarlayacaktır.

