

Glomerular Filtration Rate Test (99m Tc DTPA)

Your doctor has asked us to carry out a Glomerular Filtration Rate Test on you.

Appointment details

Patient name:

Date of appointment:

Time of appointment:

Time of injection:

Blood Sample Times:

Every effort will be made to keep to this time, but due to the nature of the investigations, delay can occur for which we apologise in advance.

If you are unable to keep your appointment, please inform us at least 24 hours in advance of your scan, due to the high cost of the non-returnable Radio-isotope used during this scan there will be a cancellation cost of £300 if cancelled with less notice.

Please telephone 01483 442696, so an alternative appointment can be arranged for you.

What does the Glomerular Filtration Rate Test involve?

This is a safe and effective test which measures the glomerular filtration rate of your kidneys. We will inject a small amount of radioactivity (^{99m}Tc DTPA) into a vein in your arm or the back of your hand and then take blood samples 2, 3, and 4 hours after the injection

Preparation required for the Glomerular Filtration Test:

Prior to the test:

- Avoid a high protein meal the evening before.
- Refrain from drinks containing caffeine (tea, coffee, Coke, chocolate etc) after 10:00pm the evening before.
- Only have a light breakfast on the morning of the test.

On the day of the test:

- Drink approximately 1 cup of water every hour from the time of injection to the time of the last blood sample.
- Only have a light lunch.
- Avoid heavy physical exercise.
- Refrain from drinks containing caffeine (tea, coffee, Coke, chocolate etc)

Radiographic Contrast

- CT scan with contrast will affect the test and we would need to wait 8 days after this procedure to carry out the Glomerular Filtration test.

Can I bring somebody with me?

Also it is very important that you do not bring children or pregnant friends with you because GFR test uses radiation and children and pregnant women are particularly susceptible to radiation.

Special Warnings

You may feel some discomfort from the pinprick of the injection. Side effects from the injection are extremely rare.

A very small amount of radioactivity is injected into your body. The risk this involves is very small and your physician will not consider carrying out the investigation unless he believes that the risk is outweighed by the potential benefit of the study.

Further guidance has been published by Public Health England.

Visit website- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ionising-radiation-from-medical-imaging-examinations-safety-advice>

Do I need to do anything after the scan?

If you are having surgery in the afternoon of the day of the scan, please follow the advised fasting instructions. If your surgery is the day after the scan, you may eat, drink and take your medication as normal.

Also, it is advised that for 12 hours following the radiopharmaceutical injection, you should avoid prolonged close contact with pregnant women, babies and children.

Further information is available should you require it.

Information for ladies

If you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant, we need to know before the injection of radioactivity.

In addition, if you are currently breastfeeding, again please inform the staff, as for certain procedures you may have to discontinue breast feeding for a certain period.

For further information please contact us in the Molecular Imaging unit on 01483 442696