

Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR) Procedure

Medical Physics & Clinical Engineering Department

The prevention of infection is a major priority in all healthcare and everyone has a part to play.

- Please decontaminate your hands frequently for 20 seconds using soap and water or alcohol gel if available
- If you have symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting, cough or other respiratory symptoms, a temperature or any loss of taste or smell please do not visit the hospital or any other care facility and seek advice from 111
- Keep the environment clean and tidy
- Let's work together to keep infections out of our hospitals and care homes.

Introduction

Your Doctor will have suggested that you have a Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR) procedure. This leaflet has been written to help you understand more about what a GFR procedure entails. It contains information about the procedure and what to expect.

What is a GFR test?

Glomerular Filtration Rate test is a measurement that shows how efficiently your kidneys are working.

What are the benefits of having a GFR procedure ?

The results from the test help your Doctor make important decisions about your care and treatment.

Are there any risks involved?

Although this procedure involves the administration of a radioactive substance the radiation dose (approximately 0.05mSv dose which is equivalent to approximately five days of natural background radiation) to yourself is very small and does not pose a risk to people around you. The benefit of having this procedure outweighs the negligible risk and allows a more accurate treatment plan.

Are there any alternatives to a GFR?

If you have been referred for a GFR procedure, you will have already had the alternative procedure, which is a blood test. Your Consultant will have requested that you have a GFR procedure using the method outlined in this leaflet as they need to know your GFR more precisely than the result of the blood test can provide.

Do I need to do anything before the test?

No. You may eat and drink normally, and there is no need to stop any medicines you may be taking.

What is involved in the test?

You will be given an injection containing a small amount of a radioactive substance into a vein in your arm. Blood samples from your arm are taken at specific times after this injection throughout the day at the Medical Physics Department. The timings of these blood samples will be dependent on your most recent eGFR result and we will discuss timings on the day of appointment (for example blood samples may be taken at three and five hours or four and six hours post administration). You can leave the hospital between blood sample times if you so want to.

Will it hurt?

You may feel a sharp scratch when a needle is used just the same as having a blood test. The actual injection will not make you feel any different. There are no side effects to this injection.

When will the results be ready?

The results will be calculated on the day of your procedure. The report will then be made available to your doctor within 24 hours of completing the procedure.

Can I drive during / after having a GFR?

Yes, you can drive as there are no side effects to this procedure.

Where can I get more information?

The staff of the Medical Physics department will be pleased to answer any questions you may have before attending for your appointment.

Our telephone number is 01902 694172. The department is open between 9:00am – 5:00pm, Monday to Friday.

English

If you need information in another way like easy read or a different language please let us know.

If you need an interpreter or assistance please let us know.

Lithuanian

Jeigu norėtumėte, kad informacija jums būtų pateikta kitu būdu, pavyzdžiui, supaprastinta forma ar kita kalba, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Jeigu jums reikia vertėjo ar kitos pagalbos, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Polish

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać te informacje w innej postaci, na przykład w wersji łatwej do czytania lub w innym języku, prosimy powiedzieć nam o tym.

Prosimy poinformować nas również, jeżeli potrzebowaliby Państwo usługi tłumaczenia ustnego lub innej pomocy.

Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਪੜ੍ਹਨ ਵਿਚ ਆਸਾਨ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੂਜੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ, ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਜਾਂ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

Romanian

Dacă aveți nevoie de informații în alt format, ca de exemplu caractere ușor de citit sau altă limbă, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Dacă aveți nevoie de un interpret sau de asistență, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Traditional Chinese

如果您需要以其他方式了解信息，如易读或其他语种，请告诉我们。

如果您需要口译人员或帮助，请告诉我们。