

Lacrimal Scan

Radiology Nuclear Imaging 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

This leaflet tells you about having a Lacrimal scan. It explains what is involved and what the possible risks are. It is not meant to replace informed discussion between you and your doctor.

What is Nuclear Imaging?

Nuclear Imaging is a way of imaging different parts of the body using a small amount of radioactive isotope attached to different chemicals.

These isotopes give off gamma rays which are similar to X-rays.

A gamma camera is used to detect the rays and produce an image on the computer. Unlike X-rays, nuclear imaging can be used to show how well an organ is working, as well as what it looks like.

What is a Lacrimal scan?

A Lacrimal scan is performed to assess the drainage system of your tears; it will identify if any obstruction is present and also help identify the cause of the obstruction.

The scan involves you sitting in a chair facing our camera, eye drops containing a special liquid radioactive tracer will then be put in your eyes and images taken to show the drainage.

Is there any preparation?

No, you can eat, drink and take any medication as normal.

Can I bring a relative / friend?

Yes, but they should be over 18 and not pregnant.

Children under 16 years attending for a scan should be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

What if I am pregnant or breastfeeding?

If you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant you should inform the department before attending for your scan. Also certain radioactive substances are excreted in breast milk. If you are breastfeeding you should inform the department so you can be advised of any special precautions.

What happens during the scan?

During the scan you will sit in an imaging chair facing the camera with your head securely strapped to avoid movement.

The radioactive drops will then be administered to your eyes, and the first images will be started immediately after the administration and will last 15 minutes. This is followed by a one minute image.

Saline drops will then be administered to your eyes and a further 15 minute images will be taken immediately after this, followed by a further one minute image.

After these images you will be asked to blow your nose, and another one minute image will be taken.

After the scan is complete any residual dye in your eyes will be washed out using saline solution

How long will it take?

The scan will take approximately 1.5 hours from start to finish.

What are the risks?

Where ionising radiation is being used for diagnostic purposes, the benefit is considered to significantly outweigh the risk.

The amount of radiation you receive is very small and does not stay in the body for very long. However, as gamma rays are similar to X-rays, there will be a small risk from being exposed to radiation. This is comparable to the natural radiation we all receive from the environment over a period of a couple of weeks.

Are there any side effects?

The radioactive isotope does not cause any side effects nor will it make you sleepy. You will still be able to drive and carry on with any normal activities.

The radioactive isotope is colourless and will in no way effect your vision.

When do I get the results?

We cannot give you the results of the scan on the day you attend.

The scan will be reviewed and a written report sent to the Consultant who referred you. Your consultant will then arrange a follow up appointment to discuss the results of your scan.

What should I do if I have a query about my appointment?

If you have any queries about your scan or wish to alter the appointment please contact the department on:

01902 307999 ext 86347

Monday - Friday, 9:00am - 4:00pm

If you need an interpreter, please let us know and we will arrange one for you.

Please note that in the view of patient confidentiality, we are unable to discuss any details concerning this appointment with anyone other than yourself, unless we have your permission to do so.

Where can I get further information?

Websites:

For general information about radionuclide tests, visit The British Nuclear Medicine Society website: www.bnms.org.uk

If you wish to know more about the radiation used in medical examinations information can be found on the Public Health England website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england

Radiology Department

The Nuclear Imaging department is on the second floor of the Radiology Department.

The Radiology department is situated off the main hospital street close to Greggs.

A site map can be found on the reverse of your appointment letter.

Transport Information

Zone A: A2 Radiology Department

The nearest car parks are:

P5 & P6. Please allow time to park as our car parking areas may be busy. Car Parking is "pay as you leave". There are designated spaces for disabled.

Public transport:

Details of the buses serving to the hospital are on our website:
www.royalwolverhamptonhospitals.nhs.uk

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。