

MUGA scan (gated blood pool study)

Nuclear Medicine Department Patient Information Leaflet

Introduction

Your doctor has suggested that you have a MUGA scan. This leaflet has been compiled to give you information about this.

What is a MUGA scan?

It is a test in which a small amount of a mildly-radioactive substance is used to obtain pictures of the blood travelling through the chambers of your heart. As a computer is used to take these pictures, along with a special 'gamma' camera, it is possible to run these pictures as a film and watch the movement, i.e. the beating of the heart. This allows us to assess how well the heart is working as a pump.

Female patients – as the test involves an injection of radioactive substance, please tell us before you come in for your appointment if you are, or might be, pregnant. If you are not sure, a pregnancy test will be offered. Please also tell us if you are breastfeeding.

What alternatives are there?

There may be an alternative test you can have such as a cardiac ultrasound. Your consultant will be able to discuss this with you. It is your decision as to whether you have this scan.

What is involved?

On arrival you will need to undress to the waist and put on a gown. A small needle (intravenous (IV) line) will be inserted into a vein in your arm and ECG electrodes will be put on your chest.

You will lie on a couch on your back and the ECG signals will be fed into the computer.

Two injections will be given through the IV line. The first substance injected sticks to your red blood cells and the second, a radioactive substance that is given 20 minutes later, sticks to this. This allows the camera to see the blood as it passes through your heart.

Two pictures will then be taken from different positions above you, while you are lying on the couch. This will take about 20 minutes.

When these are completed, you can go home.

Do I need to prepare for the test?

No preparation is required but it is advisable to only have a light breakfast and drink before coming in for the test.

Are there any after effects?

No, but you will be radioactive for about 24 hours so please avoid any unnecessary close contact with children or anyone who could be pregnant. After 24 hours the radioactive substance will have passed out of your body.

You will be able to drive, and eat and drink normally after the test.

How do I get the results?

The results will be sent to your hospital consultant and you should be sent an appointment to see your consultant in the clinic to discuss these results. If you do not have a follow up appointment or you do not hear anything within one month, please contact your consultant's secretary via the hospital switchboard on 01384 456111.

If you were referred for the scan by your GP, your results will be sent back to them within two weeks.

In radiology departments, every effort is made to keep radiation doses low. The radiation doses from X-ray examinations or isotope scans are small in relation to those we receive from natural background radiation. You should make your doctor aware of any other recent X-rays or scans you may have had, in case they make further examinations unnecessary.

If you have any questions, or if there is anything you do not understand about this leaflet, please contact:

Nuclear Medicine Department on 01384 456111 ext 2335

If your appointment date is not convenient, please contact the Outpatient Booking Team on 01384 365100 (8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday).

This leaflet can be made available in large print, audio version and in other languages, please call 0800 0730510

ਜੇਕਰ ਇਹ ਲੀਫਲੈੱਟ (ਛੋਟਾ ਇਸਤਿਹਾਰ) ਤੁਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ (ਪੰਜਾਬੀ) ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰ ਕੇ ਪੇਸ਼ਟ ਇੰਨਫਰਮੇਸ਼ਨ ਕੋ-ਆਰਡੀਨੇਟਰ ਨਾਲ **0800 0730510** ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

यदि आपको यह दस्तावेज़ अपनी भाषा में चाहिए तो पेशन्ट इनफरमेशन को-आरडीनेटर को टैलीਫ਼ोन ਨੰਬਰ **0800 0730510** पर फ़ोन करें।

જો તમને આ પત્રિકા તમારી પોતાની ભાષા (ગુજરાતી)માં જોઈતી હોય, તો કૃપા કરીને પેશન્ટ ઈન્ફોર્મેશન કો-ઓર્ડિનેટરનો **0800 0730510** પર સંપર્ક કરો.

আপনি যদি এই প্রচারপত্রটি আপনার নিজের ভাষায় পেতে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে পেশেন্ট ইনফরমেশন কো-অর্ডিনেটরের সাথে **0800 0730510** এই নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করুন।

اذا كنت ترغب هذه الوريقة مترجمة بلغتك الاصلية (اللغة العربية) , فرجاء ا اتصل بمنسق المعلومات للمريض
0800 0730510 على التلغون Information Co-ordinator

حسب شروط اس لىف اٹ کوٹہی زبان (اورد) میں حاصل کرنے کے لیے رجسٹرڈ ہائی ٹیلیفون نمبر **0800 0730510** پر وقت آنکھیں کو اور داخلہ (مریضوں کے لیے معلومات کی فراہمی کے سلسلے میں اس کے ساتھ رابطہ قائم کریں۔