

KIDNEY SCAN (DTPA RENAL SCINTIGRAPHY TEST)

Appointment

Date:

Time:

This test is all about your kidneys

Why has your doctor recommended this test?

A DTPA renal scintigraphy test (also sometimes referred to as a DTPA renogram) is used to assess your kidney flow, function and drainage.

Common uses for a DTPA scan are to look at the way your kidneys are working, if there is any obstruction or reflux, and generally see if things are functioning as they should.

You can drive to and from the test if you want to, but you are more than welcome to bring a friend or family member for support. Our offices are clearly signposted with ample onsite parking.

Before your test

Drink as close to a litre of water as you are able to in the two hours prior to your scan. (But don't worry, you can go to the toilet as normal, whenever you need to).

Please inform the technologist if you are pregnant, there is a possibility you might be pregnant, or if you are breastfeeding, prior to your scan.

What happens during the test?

Before you have your scan the technologist will ask if you have any allergies

Most patients will have the standard procedure, which will take approximately 45 minutes:

- 1 You will be asked to lie down on the imaging bed, and the camera will be over your kidneys. You don't need to take your clothes off.
- 2 A small amount of a mild radioactive liquid will be given through a vein in your arm. It feels similar to having a blood test.
- 3 The Imaging process then begins and images are collected over the next 30 minutes.

- 4 You may be given a small amount of Frusemide, a medication that increases urine (wee) production in your kidneys. The effects of this may last for up to three hours.

Some patients may require a "Captopril Challenge" renogram

- This is to look at what is called Renal Artery Stenosis (RAS), this is narrowing of the kidney artery, which may cause high blood pressure.
- With this scan you are given a tablet of Captopril, and then your blood pressure will be monitored regularly over the course of an hour. Otherwise, a Captopril scan is done in the same way as the standard scan above. This procedure takes around 2 hours.

Should I be worried about the Radiation dose?

There is no need to worry. The radiation dose from this procedure is relatively low and it's similar to what you would be exposed to in a standard x-ray.

However if you are worried or have any concerns, please share them with any of our staff, they're there to help.

After the scan

We'll ask you to wait in the waiting room while we make sure we have everything we need. This only takes a few moments and once done we'll let you know so you can go home or back to work.

We'll then have our specialist reviewers analyse your results and they will report back to your doctor within 1-2 days of doing the test.

If you have any questions at all, let us know.

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Creating answers. Not questions.