

Your appointment for pulmonary shunt testing

Respiratory Physiology Unit

Information for Patients

Produced: May 2023

Review: May 2026

Leaflet number: 1397 Version: 1

What is a pulmonary shunt test?

Your doctor has asked that you have a pulmonary shunt test. During the test you will breathe in 100% oxygen through an oxygen mask for 20 minutes. A blood sample will be taken from the ear and measured. The results of this test will help your doctor understand how well your heart and lungs work.

Why do I need it?

Pulmonary shunt is a condition where the blood vessels bypass your lungs. This means that you have lower than normal oxygen levels in your blood which can cause symptoms such as shortness of breath. The information from these tests can help to see if there is a pulmonary shunt present and how severe this is.

What will happen at my appointment?

You will be seen by a specialist in lung function testing:

1. We will ask you to sit down and ask you a few questions to make sure it is safe to do the test.
2. You will then breathe 100% oxygen through an Oxygen mask for 20 minutes before a blood sample is taken from your earlobe. Oxygen level in the blood will then be measured.
3. After the test, you can leave the department and continue your day as normal.
4. The report will be sent to your doctor.

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5. The doctor will talk to you about the results at an outpatients clinic, by phone or by letter.

How long will the appointment take?

You will be in the department for up to 45 minutes.

Can I bring someone to the appointment with me?

- You can come to the appointment on your own.
- You may like to bring either a partner, relative or friend with you however we ask they remain in our waiting area whilst you are having your test.
- If you need your partner or relative to be with you during the test due to caring needs, please let the person doing your test know.

Contact details

If you have any questions or concerns before your appointment or need an interpreter, please contact the department on 01162583420. You can also use this number to rebook or cancel your appointment.

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔
على هذه المعلومات بلغةٍ أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل
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