

Having a scan of your tear ducts

Department of Nuclear Medicine

Information for Patients

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Why am I having this test?

Your doctor has asked us to do this test. It is sometimes called a lacrimal drainage scan. The procedure uses a small amount of radioactivity to take images of your tear ducts.

If you cannot attend your appointment please call 0116 258 5627 to rearrange at least 3 days before so that we can try to offer your appointment to someone else.

You may get a reminder by text message if we have your mobile number on our system. Please make sure you respond to this.

Getting To Nuclear Medicine

Leicester Royal Infirmary –Level 0, Sandringham Building (behind the multi-storey car park)

Glenfield hospital – Please use the East Entrance.

You must tell us if:

- You are pregnant, think you may be pregnant, or have just missed a period.
- You are breastfeeding. Radioactive substances can come out in breast milk. We may advise you to stop breastfeeding for a short time.
- You have problems with your memory or learning difficulties as we need to make sure you can follow all of the instructions for your test and after you go home.
- You need an interpreter (please tell us at least 3 days before you appointment).

**Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

How do I prepare for the scan?

It is important that you do not wear contact lenses or eye make up when you attend for this test.

What happens during the scan?

- We will explain the procedure to you and you can ask any questions.
- We will ask you to wear a plastic apron and gloves to prevent any of the radiation getting on to your hands or clothes.
- A special marker is used to position your head in the correct place in front of the gamma camera.
- With your head tilted slightly backwards, a single drop of radioactive liquid is placed into the outer corner of each eye. You will then need to place your forehead against the camera. Pictures are taken right away.
- You will sit on a special chair with your head directly on the camera surface.
- It is important that you keep as still as possible so that we can get good quality pictures.
- We may use a small pillow to help you be as comfortable as possible.
- Someone will be with you throughout the scan. You will not feel any ill-effects from the drops.
- The full procedure will take about 45 minutes to 1 hour.

What happens after the scan?

Your tears will be radioactive after you have had your scan for the next 24 hours. To minimise any risk to yourself and others we ask you to:

- Use a fresh tissue each time you wipe your eyes. Throw it away immediately after use.
- You are usually able to go straight back to work, but please ask staff for advice if you work with radiation or in the photographic industry.

Are there any risks?

It is very unlikely that you will have any side effects from the radioactive eye drops. There is a small risk linked with the radiation you get by having this scan.

Ionising radiation can cause cell damage that may, after many years or decades, turn cancerous. We are all at risk of developing cancer during our lifetime. The normal risk is that this will happen to about 50% of people at some point in their life.

The dose of radiation you will get from this test is very small. It is the same dose you would get from the environment in about 8 days. Having this test will add only a very small chance of this happening to you. In fact, the risks from missing a serious disorder by not having this test may be much greater.

How will I get my results?

A radiologist will look at your scan. The results passed on to your consultant. They will be discussed with you at your next outpatient appointment.

Useful information

Due to the type of examination, friends and relatives will not be allowed into the room during the procedure, unless we need their help.

Please do not bring children with you to your appointment. Radiation is more hazardous for children and pregnant women than for adults, so please do not bring them into the Nuclear Medicine Department unless they are coming for a scan.

If you need hospital transport, please see our website <https://www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk>, or

Further information

For specific information about your test, please contact (answering machine checked during office hours):

Leicester Royal Infirmary: 0116 258 5627

Glenfield Hospital: 0116 258 3850

Leicester Radiopharmacy Service: 0116 258 5579

If you have a question about your medical condition please contact your GP or the doctor who made your referral.

Useful websites

www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk/aboutus/departments-services/imaging-services/nuclear-medicine/

www.informed-scan.com/ www.bnms.org.uk www.radiologyinfo.org www.patient.co.uk

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔
على هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل
જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

If you would like this information in another language or format such as EasyRead or Braille, please telephone 0116 250 2959 or email equality@uhl-tr.nhs.uk