



York and Scarborough
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Nuclear Medicine MuGa scan (Multi-Gated Acquisition)

Information for patients, relatives and carers

Radiology Department

① For more information, please contact:

Nuclear Medicine

The York Hospital

Wigginton Road, York, YO31 8HE

Telephone: 01904 725936

Scarborough Hospital

Woodlands Drive, Scarborough, YO12 6QL

Telephone: 01723 342073

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About this leaflet

In this leaflet we tell you about the procedure known as a Nuclear Medicine MuGa scan. We explain what is involved and what the possible risks are. The information in this leaflet is not meant to replace informed discussion between you and your doctor but can act as a starting point for such a discussion.

What is a MuGa Scan?

A MuGa scan may also be referred to as radionuclide ventriculography or a cardiac blood pool scan.

This is a type of scan that uses a radioactive tracer to measure how well your heart is pumping blood around your body, using a gamma camera.

Are there any alternatives?

There may be alternative imaging studies available.

However, your doctor has decided this test is the most appropriate for you. If you have any concerns, please discuss them with the Doctor who referred you to us.

What preparation is needed before the MuGa scan?

There is no preparation required before you have a MuGa scan. You may continue to eat and drink as normal.

You will not be asked to remove your clothes for the scan.

What happens during the MuGa scan?

A small cannula will be inserted into a vein, usually in your arm; this will be used to give you two injections. The first is an agent that prepares your blood for the test. 30 minutes later a small amount of radioactive tracer will be given.

After 15 minutes you will be asked to lie on your back on the gamma camera bed. Three ECG electrodes will be attached to your chest to monitor your heart as part of the scan. The gamma camera is positioned over your chest/heart but will not touch you throughout the scan.

During your scan you will be asked to lie still, with your arms raised above your head. The scan usually takes about 30 minutes to complete but may on occasion take slightly longer. The nuclear medicine staff will be able to advise you on the scan length once the scan has begun.

What happens after the MuGa scan?

After the scan you will be free to leave the Nuclear Medicine department and you can eat and drink normally.

Are there any risks or complications?

Nuclear Medicine procedures are among the safest diagnostic imaging tests. Side effects from the radioactive tracers are extremely rare.

The amount of radioactivity involved is very small, and after 24 hours most of the radioactive tracer will have passed out of your body. There is radiation in the air and ground all around us called background radiation. Most radioisotope scans give you on average the equivalent of a year's background radiation or less.

This scan is not recommended for pregnant women. If you are pregnant, or might be pregnant, or if you are breastfeeding, please let us know before your appointment

Results

You will not be given the results on the day of your scans. The results will be available to the doctor who asked us to do the test. They will then let you know the results.

What if I have any other questions?

If you have any worries or questions about your scan, please feel free to telephone us on 01904 726696 and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Tell us what you think of this leaflet

We hope that you found this leaflet helpful. If you would like to tell us what you think, please contact:

[enter contact details here including address and telephone and email if possible.]

Teaching, training and research

Our Trust is committed to teaching, training and research to support the development of health and healthcare in our community. Healthcare students may observe consultations for this purpose. You can opt out if you do not want students to observe. We may also ask you if you would like to be involved in our research.

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS offers impartial advice and assistance to patients, their relatives, friends and carers. We can listen to feedback (positive or negative), answer questions and help resolve any concerns about Trust services.

PALS can be contacted on 01904 726262, or email pals@york.nhs.uk.

An answer phone is available out of hours.

Leaflets in alternative languages or formats

Please telephone or email if you require this information in a different language or format, for example Braille, large print or audio.

如果你要求本資 不同的 或 式提供，電
或發電

Jeżeli niniejsze informacje potrzebne są w innym języku lub formacie, należy zadzwonić lub wysłać wiadomość e-mail

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Telephone: 01904 725566

Email: access@york.nhs.uk

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