

## Nuclear Medicine

### Your Kidney Test (GFR/EDTA)

Your doctor would like you to have a Nuclear Medicine kidney test and has arranged for you to visit our department. We would like your visit to be as pleasant as possible and hope this leaflet will answer some of the questions you may have.

#### **WHAT IS THE TEST FOR?**

The test will show how well your kidneys are working. It measures the clearance of your kidneys.

#### **IS THE TEST SAFE?**

Yes. We will ensure that the amount of radiation you receive is as small as possible. The radioactivity leaves the body very quickly and it will not make you feel sick or sleepy.

#### **DO I NEED TO PREPARE FOR THE SCAN?**

No, you do not need to do anything special. You can eat and drink normally and keep taking your tablets.

#### **WHAT IS INVOLVED?**

Shortly after you arrive you will be given a small injection in your arm. The injection is slightly radioactive, but is harmless with no side effects. Once you have had your injection, if you need to go to the toilet, you will need to use our special patient toilet – please ask at reception for the door code. It's important that you sit down while using this toilet.

Blood samples are taken at 2, 3 and 4 hours after the injection.

The whole test takes 4 - 5 hours.

Your appointment letter will tell you the time of the injection.

#### **IS THERE ANYTHING I SHOULD TELL THE STAFF BEFORE THE SCAN?**

Please tell the staff if you are planning to travel abroad within three months of your test.

#### **WHAT CAN I DO BETWEEN THE INJECTION AND THE BLOOD SAMPLES?**

You can either leave the hospital or stay with us. Meals and snacks may be purchased in the hospital or you may bring lunch with you.

#### **WHAT CAN I DO AFTER THE SCAN?**

You can go home or to work. You can drive a car, eat and drink normally and continue taking your tablets.

#### **WHAT HAPPENS TO THE RESULTS?**

We cannot give you the results of your test. We will send a report to the doctor who asked for the scan as soon as possible. They will arrange your follow-up appointment.