

# Meckles Scan

Radiology

The prevention of infection is a major priority in all healthcare and everyone has a part to play.

- Wash your hands with soap and warm water and dry thoroughly. Use hand gel, if provided, in care facilities.
- If you have symptoms of diarrhoea and vomiting stay at home and do not visit relatives that are vulnerable in hospital or in residential care. You will spread the illness.
- Keep the environment clean and safe. Let's work together to keep it that way. Prevention is better than cure.

This leaflet tells you about having a Meckles scan. It explains what is involved and what the possible risks are. It is not meant to replace an informed discussion between you and your doctor.

## What is Nuclear Imaging?

Nuclear Imaging is a way of imaging different parts of the body using a small amount of radioactive isotope tracer attached to different chemicals. These radioactive isotope tracers give off gamma rays which are similar to X-rays.

A gamma camera is used to detect these rays and produce an image on the computer. Unlike ordinary X-rays nuclear imaging can be used to show how well an organ is working as well as what it looks like.

The radioactive isotope is normally given as an injection into a vein but can be inhaled or swallowed depending upon the test.

## What is a Meckles scan?

A Meckles scan is performed to identify a defect in your bowel called a Meckles diverticulum; this can be a cause of bleeding within the bowel.

Following an injection of liquid radioactive isotope tracer into an arm or hand that is then distributed in your body by your blood flow, we will take pictures of your abdomen to indicate whether there is presence of any Meckles diverticulum.

## Is there any preparation?

On the morning of your scan you should not eat anything and only drink water. Failure to do so will mean your scan cannot be done.

## Can I bring a relative / friend?

Yes, but they should be over 18 and not pregnant. Children under 16 years attending for a scan should be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

## What if I am pregnant or breastfeeding?

If you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant you should inform the department before attending for your scan. Also certain radioactive substances are excreted in breast milk. If you are breastfeeding you should tell us upon receipt of your appointment so we can advise you of any special precautions.

## What happens during the scan?

The scan will involve you lying on an imaging couch while the camera is moved into position above your abdomen, you will need to keep very still.

We will then administer the radioactive isotope tracer and immediately start taking a series of images. These images will take approximately 30 minutes.

## How long will it take?

The total time in the department should be no more than 1 hour.

## What are the risks?

Most things that we do in life or in medicine have a small risk and we want you to understand any risks involved. Please remember that we would not recommend this test if we did not think that the risks were outweighed by the potential benefits.

## Radiation

The radioactive tracer injection exposes you to gamma rays which are a form of radiation similar to X-rays. We use as little radiation as possible – the amount used is similar to that in many other X-ray or nuclear medicine scans and is the same as a few years' worth of the natural background radiation to which we are all exposed.

As a precaution we ask that you avoid prolonged close contact (over an hour at less than one metre) with any children or pregnant women, following your injection and for the rest of the day. This is to avoid them being exposed to unnecessary radiation.

## Are there any side effects?

The injection does not cause any side effects nor will it make you sleepy. You will still be able to drive and carry on with any normal activities.

## When do I get the results?

We cannot give you the results of the scan on the day you attend.

The scan will be reviewed and a written report sent to the Consultant/GP who referred you. Your consultant will then arrange a follow up appointment to discuss the results of your scan.

## What should I do if I have a query about my appointment?

If you have any queries about your scan or wish to alter the appointment please contact the department on:

01902 307999 ext. 6347

Monday to Friday between 9am and 4pm

If you need an interpreter, please let us know when you receive your appointment and we will arrange one for you.

Please note that in view of patient confidentiality, we are unable to discuss any details concerning this appointment with anyone other than you.

## Where can I get further information?

### **Websites:**

For general information about radionuclide tests, visit The British Nuclear Medicine Society website: [www.bnms.org.uk](http://www.bnms.org.uk)

If you wish to know more about the radiation used in medical examinations information can be found on the Public Health England website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england)

## Radiology Department

The Nuclear Imaging department is on the 2nd floor of the Radiology Department.

The Radiology Department is situated close to Greggs bakery in the atrium area in Zone A2.

A site map can be found on the reverse of your appointment letter.

## Transport Information

### **Zone A: A2 Radiology Department**

The nearest car parks are: P5 & P6. Please allow time to park as our car parking areas may be busy. Car Parking is "pay as you leave". There are designated spaces for disabled.

### **Public transport:**

Details of the buses serving to the hospital are on our website: [www.royalwolverhamptonhospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.royalwolverhamptonhospitals.nhs.uk)

Alternatively you can visit [www.nxbus.co.uk](http://www.nxbus.co.uk) to plan your journey or ring them on 0121 254 7272.



## English

If you need information in another way like easy read or a different language please let us know.

If you need an interpreter or assistance please let us know.

## Lithuanian

Jeigu norėtumėte, kad informacija jums būtų pateikta kitu būdu, pavyzdžiui, supaprastinta forma ar kita kalba, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Jeigu jums reikia vertėjo ar kitos pagalbos, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

## Polish

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać te informacje w innej postaci, na przykład w wersji łatwej do czytania lub w innym języku, prosimy powiedzieć nam o tym.

Prosimy poinformować nas również, jeżeli potrzebowałiby Państwo usługi tłumaczenia ustnego lub innej pomocy.

## Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਪੜ੍ਹਨ ਵਿਚ ਆਸਾਨ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੂਜੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ, ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਜਾਂ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

## Romanian

Dacă aveți nevoie de informații în alt format, ca de exemplu caractere ușor de citit sau altă limbă, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Dacă aveți nevoie de un interpret sau de asistență, vă rugăm să ne informați.

## Traditional Chinese

如果您需要以其他方式了解信息，如易读或其他语种，请告诉我们。

如果您需要口译人员或帮助，请告诉我们。