



Mount Alvernia Hospital

Gastric Emptying Study

Your doctor has asked us to carry out a Gastric Emptying study on you.

Appointment details

Patient name

Date of appointment:

Time of appointment:

Scan time:

Every effort will be made to keep to this time, but due to the nature of the investigations, delays can occur for which we apologise in advance.

If you are unable to keep your appointment, please inform us at least 48 hours in advance of your scan, as there may be a cancellation fee for any appointments missed. Please telephone 01483 442696, so an alternative appointment can be arranged for you.

What does the Gastric Emptying study involve?

This simple scan will show the rate at which your food or drink leaves your stomach. We will ask you to eat a portion of porridge mixed with a small amount of radioactivity. We will then ask you to sit in a semi recumbent position for a period of 90 minutes whilst pictures of your stomach are taken by a gamma camera.

We can play CDs in the camera room, so if you wish, please bring with you music that you would like to listen to.

Preparation required for the Gastric Emptying Study

You should not have any food or drink or smoke after midnight. If thirsty you may have sips of water.

Please carry on with your normal medication.

Can I bring somebody with me?

Due to Covid'19 we ask you to not bring any relatives or friends with you, as we want less people coming to hospital. If in any case someone is accompanying you, please can they wait in car.

Also it is very important that you do not bring children or pregnant friends with you because the gastric emptying scan uses radiation and children and pregnant women are particularly susceptible to radiation.

Special Warnings

Side effects from the radiotracer are rare.

A very small amount of radioactivity is administered into your body. The risk this involves is very small and your physician will not consider carrying out the investigation unless he believes that the risk is outweighed by the potential benefit of the study.

Further guidance has been published by Public Health England.

Visit website- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ionising-radiation-from-medical-imaging-examinations-safety-advice>

Do I need to do anything after the scan?

You may eat and take your medication as normal. For the next 6 hours, the more fluid you drink and empty your bladder the better, as radioactivity is passed out in the urine

Also, it is advised that for 12 hours following the radiopharmaceutical injection, you should avoid prolonged close contact with pregnant women, babies and children.

Further information is available should you require it.

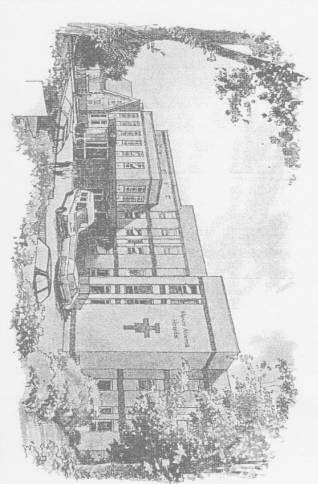
Information for ladies

If you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant, we need to know before the injection of radioactivity.

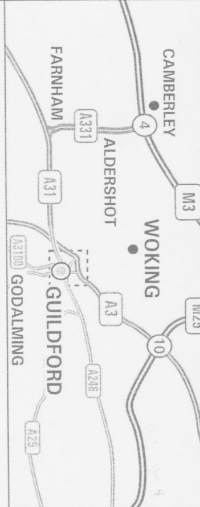
In addition, if you are currently breastfeeding, again please inform the staff, as for certain procedures you may have to discontinue breast feeding for a certain period.

For further information please contact us at the Imaging Department on 01483 442696

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From M25 London Orbital
 Exit the Motorway at junction 10 (signed to London S.W./Guildford/Kingston) and follow A3 (S). Leave the A3 at the Burslem Exit and join the A3100 (London Road). Follow the A3100 over 5 roundabouts. At the next traffic lights turn left into Waterden Road and cross Epsom Road into Harvey Road.

From A3 Northbound & Portsmouth
 Follow the A3 until the Guildford (A322) Exit. At the roundabout take the second exit (A25). Remain on the A25 and at the third traffic lights turn right into Stoke Road. Remain on Stoke Road over one roundabout and at the traffic lights turn left into York Road. Go straight through the next two traffic lights, first onto Waterden Road, then onto Harvey Road.

By Train
 Guildford Station and London Road Station are on the main London Waterloo Line. Taxis are available outside both stations. For further information, call the National Railway Information Line on 0345 48 49 50.

Parking
 There are car parks in Sydenham Road and Bright Hill (3 hrs max). There is all day parking available at London Road Station and York Road. There are also pay and display roadside parking bays outside the hospital.

