



Octreotide Scan

What is it?

An Octreotide Scan is a test that is used to detect various tumours of the Neuro-endocrine System. It provides information that may not be obtained by other tests such as X-rays or CT Scans.

What do I need to do before the procedure?

Make sure you remember to bring any previous films or reports to the appointment. Wear warm comfortable clothing. You will also need to:

- **Medications** - take your medications as normal
- **Advise of pregnancy or breastfeeding** - let the service know if you are pregnant or breastfeeding
- **Stay hydrated** - it is important to keep your fluid levels up for the test

What will happen?

At your first appointment, you will meet with a nuclear medicine doctor. They will ask you about your medical history. Your injection will then be ordered from overseas.

At the next appointment, a small injection of a radioactive tracer (Octreotide) is given into a vein in the arm. The injection circulates and distributes within your body. This takes about four hours and you do not have to stay during this time.

When you return, pictures will be taken on a special camera. This takes up to 30 minutes. You will need to lie still during the pictures and breathe normally.

You will be required to return for some more pictures each day for three more days. The scans will take about an hour and a half each day.

What can I expect after?

There are no after-effects from having an octreotide scan. The small dose of radiation in the injection is about the same as you would get from a CT scan.

Once it is finished, you can go home. You are able to drive immediately after the test. Your results will be sent to your GP or specialist.

Adapted from Liverpool Hospital Department of Nuclear Medicine and PET

This information is to be viewed by someone who has received a diagnosis from their doctor. It is not designed to be used to diagnose a condition or as a substitute for ongoing medical care

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