



CT Guided Nerve Root Injection

Scanning Department Radiology

Great Western Hospital

If you need to cancel or you have queries or concerns please contact the department on

01793 60 50 51

Opening Hours

Monday-Friday 9.00am – 4.30pm



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What is a CT Scan?

A computerised tomography (CT) scan uses X-rays and a computer to create detailed images of the inside of the body.

Can I bring a friend or relative?

Yes. Your relative or friend may come with you to the scanning department, but they may not be able to stay with you for the CT scan.

Please note, there are no childcare facilities within Radiology.

What clothing shall I wear?

Clothing free of metal fastenings and zips may minimize the need to change, however you may be asked to remove your clothing and put on a hospital gown. Metal and jewellery in the area to be scanned will need to be removed.

Can I take my medicines as usual?

Yes, continue to take all medicines as normal

Please contact us if you are taking WARFARIN



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What happens during the CT scan?

- The scan usually takes about 15-20 minutes to complete, but can take up to an hour including preparation time.
- You'll usually lie on your side on a table that passes into the CT scanner.
- An injection of local anaesthetic will be used to numb the area.
- A steroid and anaesthetic will be injected into the nerve root
- The radiographer will operate the scanner from the next room.
- While the scan is taking place, the table moves through the scanner.



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Are there any risks?

- During your procedure you will receive a dose of ionising radiation to help us form images of your body and this will provide your doctor with detailed information.
- The radiation dose is always kept as low as possible. The actual dose you receive will vary depending on the type of procedure you are having. Your doctor has considered this and feels that this is the best procedure for you, to help diagnose or treat your condition.
- We are all at risk of developing cancer in our lifetime and the added risk from undergoing your procedure is small and is outweighed because of the benefits it provides.
- Every procedure that you have in Radiology has been assessed to ensure that the benefit outweighs the risk. For more information see the displays within the department or ask a member of staff.
- The injection can cause mild discomfort in your neck or arm.
- Rarely the injection can cause a mild infection or mild bleeding
- Exceptionally rarely the injection can be associated with “stroke like symptoms”



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What happens after?

- You should not drive yourself home
- You may eat and drink normally

How will I know the results of the CT scan?

- The results will not be available on the day because the Radiologist will need to study your images and write a report.
- You will receive a letter or follow up appointment from the clinic to discuss the results
- If your GP requested the scan, please visit the surgery for your results

What if I am pregnant or breast feeding?

Please contact the booking office on the telephone number below.

Are there any weight restrictions?

There is a weight limit of 140kg or 22 stone. Please ring if this affects you.



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What if I need to contact you to change or cancel my CT Scan?

Ring **01793 605051**

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This information sheet is available to order in other languages and formats. If you would like a copy, please contact us on 01793 604031 or email gwh.pals@nhs.net

Document Control

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