Captopril renal scan

PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET NM05

Your appointment:

Date: .....

Time: .....

Location: .....

Please see our website for more clinic details.

Duration of examination

The examination process will take approximately one and a half hours and is usually arranged as an afternoon appointment.

Please bring with you:

- Your request form
- Medicare and any
- Healthcare cards

Payment on the day of the examination is requested.

For more information regarding Benson Radiology please visit:

bensonradiology.com.au

What is a captopril renal scan?

This scan is performed to assess the blood flow and function of your kidneys as a potential cause for your hypertension (high blood pressure).

Patient preparation

As some medications can affect the result of your scan, please have a list of all your current medications available when booking your appointment.

You will need to be well hydrated for your examination. Drink one litre of water one hour prior to your scan. You may empty your bladder as needed as it is not a requirement to have a full bladder.

What will happen during the examination?

On arrival, a nuclear medicine technologist will take your blood pressure. You will then be given a small tablet of Captopril. Captopril is a blood pressure medication that may assist in detecting any narrowing of the arteries supplying blood to your kidneys.

The Captopril will take an hour to take effect. During this hour you will be required to rest quietly. Your blood pressure will be regularly monitored. After the hour's rest you will be positioned on the scanning bed, where you will receive a small injection into a vein, usually in your arm.

This injection contains a small amount of radioactive tracer, which is filtered out by the kidneys. The injection has no side effects. Images are taken immediately after the injection for 30 minutes. You will be required to remain still during this imaging phase.

Depending on the results of this examination, the test may need to be repeated without the Captopril tablet. This does not mean that the first injection did not work, it simply means more information may be required to make an accurate diagnosis.

For this examination you may need to stop your blood pressure medication for three days.

Are there any risks?

This procedure has no associated side effects.

Pregnant, breast feeding patients and carers of infants

This examination is not suitable for pregnant women.

After the examination

The images will be reviewed and reported by our nuclear medicine specialist. These will then be sent to your referring clinician.

For details on reporting timeframes, please speak with our reception staff.

It is important that you follow up the results of your examination with your referring clinician.

It is important you understand why and how we will be assisting you. If you have any questions, please call one of our clinics or speak to our staff on the day of your visit.

Benson radiology

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