

Electrocardiogram (ECG) Monitors



Name:

Who to contact and how:

Notes:

Diana, Princess of Wales
Scarcho Road
Grimsby
DN33 2BA
03033 306999
www.nlg.nhs.uk

Scunthorpe General Hospital
Cliff Gardens
Scunthorpe
DN15 7BH
03033 306999
www.nlg.nhs.uk

Goole & District Hospital
Woodland Avenue
Goole
DN14 6RX
03033 306999
www.nlg.nhs.uk



Information for patients

Introduction

This booklet has been designed to give you useful information and advice about your electrocardiogram (ECG) test and to answer some commonly asked questions you may have.

Electrocardiogram

An electrocardiogram (ECG) is a test which monitors / records the electrical activity of the heart.

ECG Monitors

There are several types of heart monitors. Your Doctor will decide which is most appropriate for you depending on your symptoms.

Continuous Loop Recorders

This device is fitted with thin wires attached to electrodes (sticky patches) on your chest. For the longer length recordings, you will be given spare electrodes to put on your chest for when you need to detach them and wash. The monitor is very small and light.

The recorder is continuously recording your heart rhythm. The monitor may be fitted for 24, 48, 72 hours or for 7 days depending on the doctor's request.

You will be given a diary to document your activities, when you have any symptoms and if and when you take any medication.

Event Recorders

This piece of equipment is designed to record your heartbeat.

The event recorder is the same size as a pager and can be placed in your pocket or handbag until you need to record an event.

When you feel any symptoms you need to take a recording. We have several different types of event recorders and the one most appropriate for your symptoms will be chosen for you. Full instructions on its use will be given during your appointment.

You will be given a diary to document as and when you have symptoms.

The Physiologist will inform you how many recordings may be taken.

You will be informed as to when the device needs to be returned. The results will go to the requesting Consultant and you will be informed of these at your next outpatient appointment.

Benefits

This is a safe test and could be useful in the diagnosis and possible treatment of any irregularity in your heart rhythm.

Information for patients

Risks

Occasionally patients may suffer with a mild skin reaction to the electrodes. Please inform the Physiologist if you have sensitive skin.

Reference Section

Should you require further information regarding heart investigations you may find the following websites useful.

The British Cardiac Society

www.bcs.com

The British Heart Foundation

www.bhf.org.uk

Contact Details for Further Information

Should you have any questions before the examination or during the time you are being monitored, please telephone the Cardiology Department:

At Diana Princess of Wales Hospital, Grimsby

Telephone number: 03033 303815

At Scunthorpe General Hospital

Telephone No: 03033 302815

Any Comments, Compliments, Concerns or Complaints

If you have any other concerns please talk to your nurse, therapist or doctor. Our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) are available on 03033 306518 (Grimsby, Scunthorpe and Goole). You can also contact nlg-tr.PALS@nhs.net.

As a Trust we value equality of access to our information and services, therefore alternative formats available on request at nlg-tr.interpreters@nhs.net

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