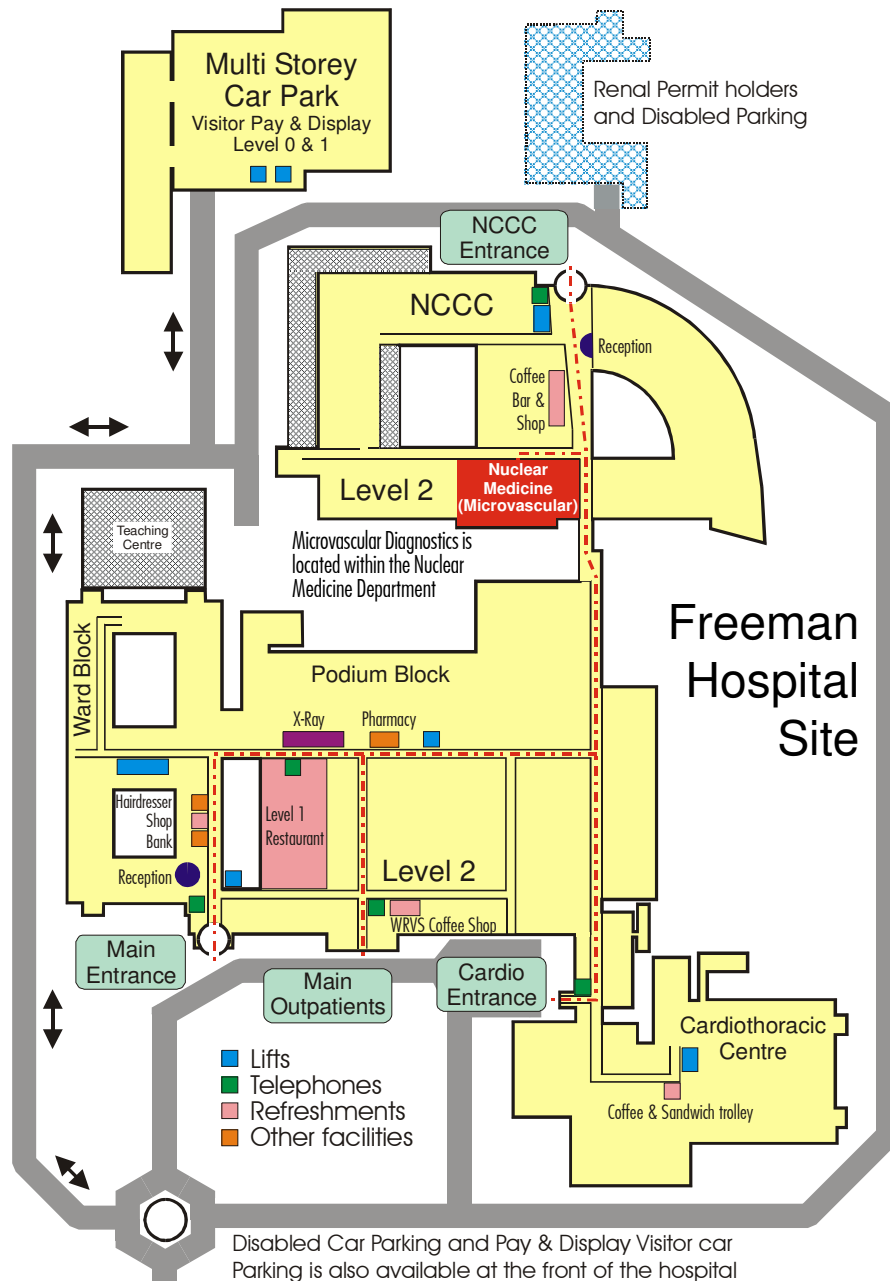


Finding your way to Microvascular Diagnostics



Main Entrance, Freeman Road

Produced by The Regional Medical Physics Department, Freeman Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne NE7 7DN

The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust



Regional Medical Physics Department

Microvascular Diagnostics Service

FREEMAN HOSPITAL

Your
Microvascular
Study

Additional Information
for Patients and Relatives

How to find us ?

Microvascular Diagnostics is located in the Nuclear Medicine Department of the Northern Centre for Cancer Care building (NCCC). Nuclear Medicine is signposted from both the NCCC entrance and the Cardiothoracic Centre entrance. You can enter the hospital from either and follow the directions shown by the map on the back cover. If you have any questions about your visit, feel free to contact us using the numbers shown.

Direct Line:- (0191) 21-38200

or Hospital Switchboard:- (0191) 233-6161 ext 38200

Why have you been referred for microvascular studies?

Microvascular studies are specialist tests that provide important information about the small blood vessels and corresponding tissue blood flow, i.e. the microcirculation. They help the consultant to make a diagnosis. Most often it is the skin and vascular tissue of the arms and legs that we assess. Microvascular measurements can also be used to help assess response to a treatment you may have been given.

What is involved?

The measurements are normally very straightforward. Most involve the use of non-invasive optical technologies, i.e. using light and special non-contact cameras on the skin, to assess the microcirculation. We sometimes also assess changes in tissue blood flow following simple physiological challenges, such as mild cold or mild heat application or with lying-to-standing / treadmill exercise.

Your appointment letter will briefly describe the specific tests that will be performed during your visit. The approximate time taken to complete your study will be indicated in your appointment letter.

Do I need to do anything before coming for your test?

In order to improve the accuracy and usefulness of your microvascular study it is important that you read and follow the relevant preparation notes given on the back of your appointment letter. For example you may be asked not to smoke or drink coffee/tea or cola in the hours before your study is due to start.

What happens to the results of the test?

A report is sent to the hospital consultant who asked us to do the test. The results will usually be given to you at your next outpatient clinic together with any other investigations you have had done.

Any more questions?

The staff of the department want your visit to be as pleasant as possible. If you have any other questions you can telephone, or ask before your test starts.

If there are general enquiries about your appointment please contact our reception staff on **0191 21-38200**.

For specific enquiries about your microvascular study then please contact Dr John Allen (Principal Clinical Scientist for clinical measurement service, telephone **0191 21-38199**).

Travel to hospital

By ambulance

Ambulance transport can only be authorised by a doctor. If for any reason you feel ambulance transport is necessary please see your own GP to arrange this.

By bus & Metro

Regular bus services stop outside the hospital. Metros run to South Gosforth and Longbenton (there is a shortcut footpath signposted from the Longbenton station to the hospital). For further details contact the travel-line on 0870-608-2-608

Disabled Parking

Parking is "free of charge" to blue badge holders in designated 'disabled' bays. **If you are unable to secure a 'disabled' parking space, you should park in the regular hospital car parks at the standard tariff advertised.**

Public Car Park facilities

Car parking is available at both the front of the hospital site and the multi storey car park to the rear of the site near to the NCCC (only levels 0 & 1 are available to patients and visitors). Both areas operate either a 'pay and display' or 'pay on foot' system.

Current Parking charges

1 - 5 hours - £1.10 per hour or part thereof
6-24 hours - £7.70 per period or part thereof

Any car not parked in an appropriate bay, or not displaying the appropriate ticket/permit for the area in which they are parked, will receive a £60 fixed penalty notice.

In the interest of the health of all patients, SMOKING is NOT allowed in the hospital or on the hospital site.