











Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust: Information for Families

Medicines given during an MRI scan under general anaesthetic

Your child				
is under the care of at				
Great Ormond Street Hospital.				
He or she has attended the MRI/CT Unit				
on (date) and had a scan.				
He or she was discharged home once comfortable and recovered from the anaesthetic.				
If you have any questions, please call the MRI/CT Unit				
on 020 7405 9200 extension 5866 Monday to Friday				
from 8.00am to 6.30pm.				
Out of hours, please call (extension)				
for (ward).				

This information sheet explains how your child might feel after a scan and how you can best care for him or her.

Your child may have been given some medicine during the MRI scan to make the image clearer. The radiographer will tell you which medicines your child has had in case of later side effects.

Medicines commonly used during scans include:

- Secretin This is a naturally occurring hormone that increases the volume of juice within the duct of the pancreas. It is given as an injection. Possible side effects include: loose or runny poo, cramp-like stomach ache, headache, skin itching and a rash.
- **■** Hyoscine butylbromide (Buscopan®)
 - This medicine relaxes the smooth muscle of the intestine. Possible side effects immediately after the injection include: dilated pupils, dry mouth, flushing of the skin, dislike of bright light and palpitations. In the hours following the injection, other side effects may occur: constipation, urinary retention and urinary urgency.
- Furosemide This medicine increases the production of urine immediately after injection. Possible side effects include: low blood pressure and dehydration. You can reduce these side effects by encouraging your child to drink plenty of fluids in the hours after the scan.
- Mannitol with or without thickener –
 This medicine is drunk and allows clear imaging of the wall of the bowel. A common side effect is loose or runny poo, so in the first few hours after the scan, your child should have access to a toilet. Dehydration may also occur, so ensure plenty of fluids in the hours following the scan.

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■ Gadoteric acid (Dotarem®) – This is a 'dye' that makes blood vessels and any inflammation show up more clearly on the pictures. It is given as an injection. A possible side effect is hypersensitivity, but this will normally be an immediate effect. There are no reported long term side effects of Dotarem.

Your child was given:

Medication	Medication	Medication
Dose	Dose	Dose
Time	Time	Time
Time	Time	Time

Notes			

Compiled by the MRI Unit and Pharmacy department in collaboration with the Child and Family Information Group

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www.goshfamilies.nhs.uk www.childrenfirst.nhs.uk

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