

Pancreatic cyst (IPMN)

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Na żądanie ta ulotka może zostać udostępniona
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What are pancreatic cysts?

Pancreatic cysts are fluid or mucous filled sacs that develop in or around the pancreas gland.

Most small pancreatic cysts do not require any treatment other than surveillance with scans and blood tests.

These cysts are not cancerous, however a very small percentage of them do change and grow and then require further investigation.

These cysts are usually identified incidentally and picked up when scans are done for another reason.

There are more of these being picked up as the quality of scans improve. They do not usually cause any symptoms.

There are 4 types of pancreatic cysts:

1. Intraductal Papillary Mucinous Neoplasm (IPMN)
2. Mucinous Cystic Neoplasm (MCN)
3. Inflammatory cysts
4. Serous cystadenoma

Notes

Treatment

Surveillance

Most of these cysts are monitored simply with scans and blood tests.

The timing of the scans may vary from a few months to 2 yearly depending if the cysts are stable or change.

If the cysts change you may need to attend the pancreatic unit at the Royal Liverpool to discuss further investigations or treatment.

We work closely with the pancreatic team and they will review your scans if necessary and advise on investigations.

Who to contact ?

The surveillance of the cysts is monitored by the Upper GI nurses.

If you have any questions or concerns about the surveillance you can contact us directly on **Tel : 0151 430 1189**

Results

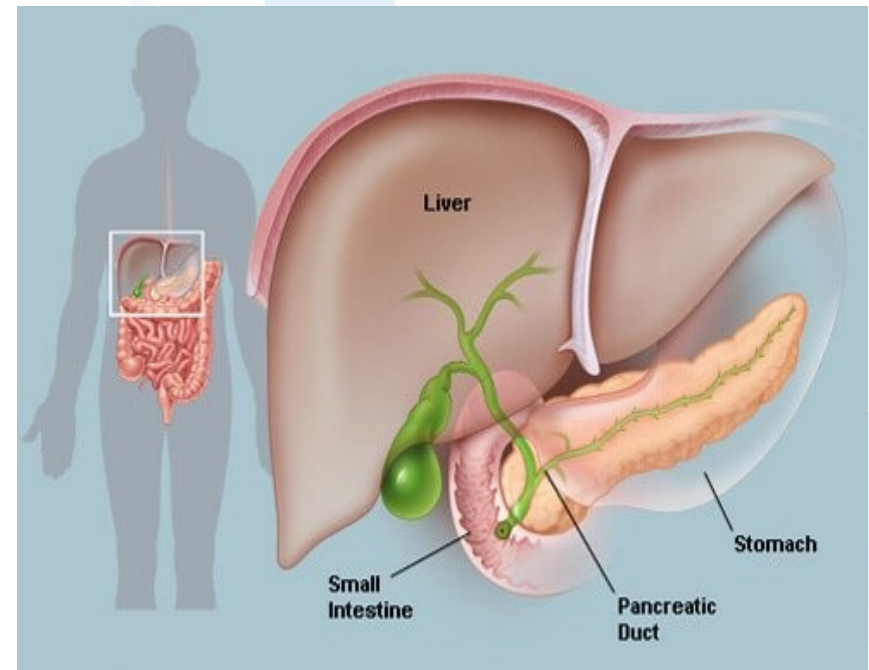
Once you have attended for your bloods and scan the results may take a few weeks so do not be concerned by this.

If you do not receive the results after 4 weeks, please contact us on **Tel : 0151 430 1189**

What and where is the pancreas

The pancreas is an organ in the abdomen that sits behind the stomach.

The pancreas has two main functions, to produce enzymes to digest food and hormones including insulin.



Investigations you may require

CT Scan

This uses X-rays and a computer to create detailed images of the inside of the body.

Some dye may be injected into a vein to give more detailed pictures.

The scan takes approximately 15 minutes.

MRI scan

This uses powerful magnets to create images of the inside of the body and is the most common scan used to monitor pancreatic cysts.

This scan takes a little longer approximately 30 minutes.

It can be a bit noisy and some people can find it a little claustrophobic but the radiographers will talk you through the scan.

It is important that you tell us if you have any metal in your body such as a pacemaker or any artificial joints.

Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS)

This procedure is done at the pancreatic specialist unit at the Royal Liverpool Hospital.

A thin tube is passed into the mouth through the stomach into the small intestine and then uses sound waves to take pictures of the pancreas and bile ducts.

If a biopsy is needed this can also be done at the same time. This procedure takes approximately 15 minutes.

You will be offered a sedative to make you a little sleepy and in most cases be allowed home the same day.

If you do need this please tell us if you take any medication to thin the blood or are diabetic.

Blood tests

Along with the scans we will require regular blood tests.

These blood tests are specifically to look at the pancreas and are an important part of the surveillance.

Without the blood tests we will be unable to monitor the cysts accurately.