



*Better
Together*

Patient information

Heidelberg pH Capsule System

Infectious Diseases Research Directorate

We are using the Heidelberg pH capsule system in our clinical research trials to collect information about the acidity of your stomach juices. You will also receive a leaflet that will tell you about the clinical trial.

What is the Heidelberg pH capsule system?

The Heidelberg pH Capsule is a high frequency transmitter. It is a small plastic capsule that measures 7.1 mm by 15.4 mm. It is very easy to swallow.

The Heidelberg pH Capsule is not radioactive.

It is a miniature high frequency transmitter that continuously sends information about the juices in the digestive tract. The information sent by the capsule is picked up by the Medallion Pendant Transceiver.

The transceiver is a wireless small box that you will wear for the duration of the study day. It receives the information from the capsule and sends it to a computer by a process called telemetry.

The information from the capsule is received by the transceiver, processed and sent, via telemetry, to the computer, where it is recorded and displayed on a graph. There is no discomfort or trauma associated with a Heidelberg pH capsule.

Why are we using the Heidelberg pH capsule system?

There is a different procedure where a naso-gastric tube is introduced into the nose. The tube is then passed into the stomach whilst you swallow. This is an unpleasant procedure. The tube remains in place for the study day. Fluid is then taken from the tube using a plastic syringe at different times during the day.

The Heidelberg pH Capsule is friendlier to use and is less invasive than the naso-gastric tube. The doctor or nurse that administers the test is trained in all aspects of the system and procedures. A Heidelberg pH Diagnostic test is safe and non-invasive.

Preparation for the study day

You will be asked not to eat or drink for eight hours before attending for the study day. You will be able to drink water up to one hour before the study day.

You will be asked not to take any other medication before the study day.

You cannot swallow the Heidelberg pH capsule if you have a permanent pacemaker fitted.

This will be explained at the study screening visit. If you require certain medication you may not be able to take part in the clinical trial. You should not have a MRI scan whilst taking part in the study.

After the study day

The capsule will pass through your digestive tract and will be removed in your stool. You should not have a MRI scan within seven days after swallowing the capsule.

Do I have to take the Heidelberg pH capsule?

No, you do not have to take the capsule. If you decide not to take the capsule, you will not be able to take part in the clinical trial. If you have any further questions, please ask your study doctor or nurse.

Further information

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Review date: June 2016

All Trust approved information is available on request in alternative formats, including other languages, easy read, large print, audio, Braille, moon and electronically.

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