

Patient Information Leaflet

BONE SCAN

WHAT IS A BONE SCAN?

This is a type of nuclear medicine scan. It uses a tiny amount of radiation to look at the function of the body – in this case your bones. The Radiographer will give you a small injection of radioactivity into a vein in your arm, just like having a blood test. The bones will absorb this over 2-3 hours during which time you can leave the hospital. When you return we will take pictures with a gamma camera. (A type of scanner). Most of the radioactivity will have left your body by the next day.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

The benefit is it can show conditions that may not be seen with other procedures.

IS THERE ANY SPECIAL PREPARATION, OR INSTRUCTIONS?

You may eat and drink normally and take any medication as normal. After the injection please try to drink at least 2 pints of fluid and empty your bladder frequently. This will improve the technical quality of the scan and reduce the radiation dose to your body.

IF YOU ARE PREGNANT OR BREAST FEEDING

If you are pregnant, or think you may be pregnant or you are breastfeeding please tell us before we give you the injection.

IS THE RADIOISOTOPE INJECTION DANGEROUS?

We are all exposed to small amounts of radiation from the atmosphere throughout our lives. Any amount of diagnostic radiation can add slightly to the normal risk of developing cancer. In all our examinations the amount of radiation is kept to the minimum so the added risk from this test is very small indeed. Your body will get rid of the radiation quickly and naturally through your kidneys. However, please avoid



prolonged close contact with children and pregnant women on the day of the scan. This is to avoid exposing them to unnecessary radiation.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE TEST?

You will not be required to undress for the scan apart from removing outdoor clothing and metallic objects such as keys, coins and buckles. You will be asked to lie on the scan table, the Radiographer will position the scanner and it will move slowly to take a picture of your whole body over about 25 minutes. It may be necessary to do a few extra pictures at the end. The scanner is quite short and it is not like being in a tunnel. You will not be sedated at all and you can use your usual form of transport.

HOW WILL I GET MY RESULTS?

The results will be sent to the doctor who referred you for this examination and you can discuss the report with them when you next visit. An appointment will be sent to you if you came as an outpatient. If your GP sent you, you need to make an appointment to see them about two weeks after the examination.

ANY QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about the procedure you can contact the Nuclear Medicine Department on 0161-922-6605 during the hours of 9.00am to 5pm Monday to Friday. Alternatively, write your questions in this space below and bring this with you when you attend for your scan.

ARE THERE ANY ALTERNATIVES

Your doctor has decided that this is the appropriate examination to investigate your condition. Any alternatives should have already been discussed with you.

SOURCE

In compiling this information leaflet, a number of recognised professional bodies including NHS Direct and accredited good practice guidelines have been used.

Should you have a visual impairment, this leaflet can be made available in bigger print or on audiotape. If you require either of these options, please ring 0161 922 6605.

আপনি যদি এই তথ্য পড়তে বা বুঝতে না পারেন, তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে এথনিক হেলথ টিমের সাথে টেলিফোনে যোগাযোগ করুন 0161 331 5149/5150 এই নাম্বারে, তখন তারা আপনাকে সাহায্য করতে পারবে।

જો આપ આ માહિતી વાંચી કે સમજી શકો છો નહીં, અથવા ઠીક ઠીક ટીમનો 0161 331 5149/5150 નંબર પર સંપર્ક રાખો તેઓ આપનો જરૂર મદદ કરશે.

اگر یہ معلومات پڑھ نہیں سکتے ہیں یا آپ کو اس کی سمجھ نہیں آتی ہے تو براہ مہربانی ہیلتھ ٹیم کے ساتھ ٹیلی فون نمبر 0161 331 5149/5150 پر رابطہ کریں تو وہ آپ کی مدد کر سکیں گے۔

Author	Department	Date created	25/08/06
Superintendent Radiographer	Radiology	Date last Updated	23/08/2018
Radiology Ref Number	Nuclear Medicine RAD600	Updated by	Superintendent Radiographer
		Version	1.1