

Information about your Nuclear Medicine Bone Scan

Your doctor has referred you for a Nuclear Medicine Bone Scan.

It is important that you read the enclosed booklet "Information about your Nuclear Medicine Test" with this leaflet.

What is a Bone Scan?

A bone scan is a simple test that lets us take pictures of all the bones in your body.

Do I need to do any special preparation before the Bone Scan?

There is no special preparation for this test, you can eat and drink as normal.

What does a Bone Scan involve?

A bone scan involves an injection of a small amount of radioactive liquid into your arm. The injection lets us take pictures of all the bones in your body. We may take pictures immediately after your injection. After a wait of approximately 3 hours we will then take further pictures.

During this time you can leave the department or stay with us. During this time we ask you to drink plenty of fluids, and to empty your bladder frequently, this is to wash the radioactive liquid through your body. You can eat and take medication as normal.

How long does the scan last?

Scans typically last between 30 – 60 minutes.

Your appointment

If you can't make this appointment please tell us as soon as possible – we can arrange another appointment. Please phone the number on your appointment letter.

Pregnancy and Breastfeeding

Where possible we try to avoid performing bone scans on patients who are, or may be pregnant. Therefore please contact the department if you are:

- Pregnant
- Breast-feeding
- You think you could be pregnant

If you are booking transport through the Scottish Ambulance Service please contact them as soon as possible and tell them that you will be in the department for approximately 4 hours.