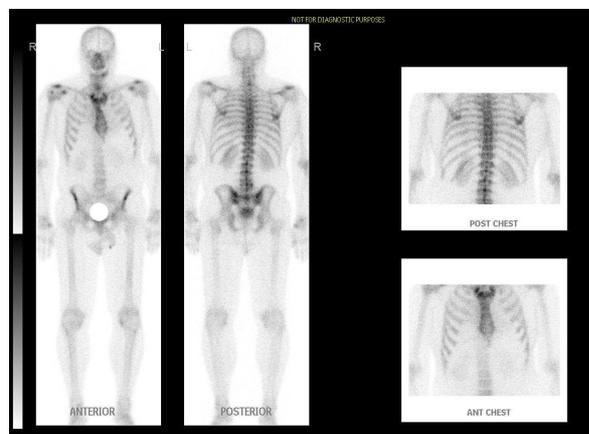


Nuclear Medicine Scan

Your visit to the
Medical Physics Department
Diana, Princess of Wales Hospital



Name: _____

Who to contact and how: _____

Notes: _____

Diana, Princess of Wales
Hospital
Scartho Road
Grimsby
DN33 2BA
03033 306999
www.nlg.nhs.uk

Scunthorpe General
Hospital
Cliff Gardens
Scunthorpe
DN15 7BH
03033 306999
www.nlg.nhs.uk

Goole & District
Hospital
Woodland Avenue
Goole
DN14 6RX
03033 306999
www.nlg.nhs.uk



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Information for patients

What is a Nuclear Medicine scan?

There are different types of scans used for different things. Ultrasound is one type and MRI is another. The nuclear medicine scan which you are to have is different to these. It is a test in which a small amount of radioactivity is used to obtain pictures.

What does it involve?

In most cases, the radioactive material is injected into a vein in your arm. For certain tests it may be breathed in or swallowed in a capsule. Depending on the type of scan you are having, pictures may be taken straight away, after a delay, or both straight away and after a delay. For a small number of scan types, pictures will be taken on a later day or days. Your appointment letter will give you details of your particular test and the times involved.

The pictures are taken by a special camera called a gamma camera. During the scan you will have to lie on a bed or sit in a chair. You will not normally need to undress for the scan. After we have finished taking the pictures, you will be free to go home or return to work.

Do I need to prepare for the scan?

For most scans you do not need to do anything special. You can eat and drink as normal before attending, and during any delay between the injection and the scan. **BUT** please read your appointment letter carefully for some scans, you may have to do something different.

If I am taking tablets or other drugs, do I need to stop?

For most scans there is no need to change any regular treatment. **BUT** please read your appointment letter carefully.

Can I bring someone with me?

Yes, but you should not bring young children or babies.

Is there anything I should tell the staff before the scan?

Yes. If you are a woman, please tell us if you are pregnant or if you think you may be pregnant. Also, please tell us if you are breast feeding.

Will it hurt?

Only the pinprick of the injection needle may hurt a bit. You may have had a blood test in the past. This is much the same. You will not feel any ill effects from the radioactive injection. It does not make you sleepy and does not prevent you from driving a car.

Information for patients

What about the radiation?

Even though you will be injected with radioactive material, the amount of radiation you will receive is small. The relative amount will be explained in the appointment letter as it depends on the exact test you are having.

Do I need to take any special precautions after the scan is completed?

You can eat, drink and go where you wish. You may be asked to drink more than usual for the rest of the day. This is to help "wash" the radioactivity out of your body. The rest will disappear naturally.

Most people do not need to take any special precautions. Individual written instructions will be given to you when you attend.

What happens to the result of the scan?

A report is sent to the doctor who requested the scan. This is because the doctor who requested your scan will have all the results from other tests and will be able to tell you how the result of this scan affects your care.

Any more questions?

The staff of the department want your visit to be as pleasant as possible. If you have any other questions, please ask the staff. You can telephone, or ask before your scan starts.

The department telephone number is **03033 304535**.

After the scan is completed, if you have any comments or suggestions, please let us know. We are always trying to improve the department and would welcome your contribution.

Any Comments, Compliments, Concerns or Complaints

If you have any other concerns please talk to your nurse, therapist or doctor. Our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) are available on 03033 306518 (Grimsby, Scunthorpe and Goole). You can also contact nlg-tr.PALS@nhs.net

As a Trust we value equality of access to our information and services, therefore alternative formats available on request at nlg-tr.interpreters@nhs.net

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