

Having a Nuclear Medicine Scan

An information guide



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What is a Nuclear Medicine Scan?

This is a test in which a small amount of radioactive material is used to obtain pictures of various parts of the body. It is also known as a radio-isotope scan. The results of this test will allow the consultant to decide which treatment path to follow for you.

What is involved?

When you attend the department you will be given a small injection of a radioactive tracer, there are no side effects associated with the injection. The injection will not make you drowsy or affect your ability to drive.

Is radiation dangerous?

The amount of radiation you will receive is small and by the following day very little of it will remain in your body. If you need any more information about this please contact the department.

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

If you think you are pregnant or you are breast feeding please contact the department as soon as possible BEFORE attending, as radiation may be harmful to the unborn child.

Are there any special instructions for me to carry out?

You may eat and drink as normal before your test unless instructed otherwise. You should also continue with any medicine that you are on unless instructed otherwise. After the injection please try to

drink at least two pints of fluid, and empty your bladder frequently. This will improve the technical quality of your scan and reduce the radiation dose to your body.

Where do I go for my scan?

The department is located on the ground floor of K Block situated in the new Women and Children's building at North Manchester General Hospital. Please report to the Nuclear Medicine reception.

Where do I get my results?

The results of your test will be sent to the referring Consultant who will contact you.

The staff members in the Nuclear Medicine department want your visit to be as pleasant as possible, if you have any questions, please telephone the department or ask at the time of your appointment.

If you are unable to keep your appointment please inform the department as soon as possible. Your injection is prepared in advance for you from expensive materials and cannot be used for anyone else.

Telephone Number 0161 720 2310 is available between 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday.

There are no risks or side effects associated with the scan. The benefits gained allow the doctor to plan the correct treatment for you. Other types of scans are usually complimentary to these or carry a bigger risk.

Further information can be obtained from the British Nuclear Medicine Society – www.bnms.org.uk

If English is not your first language and you need help, please contact the Interpretation and Translation Service

Jeśli angielski nie jest twoim pierwszym językiem i potrzebujesz pomocy, skontaktuj się z działem tłumaczeń ustnych i pisemnych

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Dacă engleza nu este prima ta limbă și ai nevoie de ajutor, te rugăm să contactezi Serviciul de interpretare și traducere

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For advice on stopping smoking contact the Specialist Stop Smoking Service on 01706 517 522

For general enquiries please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 0161 604 5897


For enquiries regarding clinic appointments, clinical care and treatment please contact 0161 624 0420 and the Switchboard Operator will put you through to the correct department / service

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The NCA brings together Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust and the hospitals and community services of The Royal Oldham Hospital, Fairfield General Hospital in Bury, and Rochdale Infirmary (currently part of The Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust).

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