

Information for patients having a Bone scan (child)

Your Paediatrician has advised you that a Bone scan is necessary to assist with their diagnosis as part of your child's treatment. This scan will be carried out in the Nuclear Medicine Department, which is part of the Radiology (X-ray) Unit.

IMPORTANT:

You must attend Ward 14 the children's unit at 08.30 a.m. before coming to X-ray, to have a venflon inserted for the scan later.

We have arranged for a children's doctor from Ward 14 to insert a type of needle (called a venflon) to allow us to painlessly inject the special dye for the scan.

The ward staff may apply EMLA cream to your child's hands. This numbs the skin to make insertion of the needle as painless as possible.

Once the venflon is in place you can come to the X-Ray Department and follow the black line on the floor around to Nuclear Medicine.

The 10.30 A.M. appointment shown on the appointment letter refers to the time we have arranged to inject the special dye for the scan. This is through the venflon and it is entirely painless. The injection is completely harmless with no side-effects.

After the injection we will remove the venflon and you may take your child home until it is time for the scan in the afternoon. This will be 3-4 hours after the injection, an exact time will be given to you on the day.

The test is performed on a bed using a large detector which may be moved over the body to produce pictures of the bones. The scan usually takes about half an hour.

It is extremely important that your child remains very still during the scan, so if you have a DVD that will help keep him/her amused, please bring it with you. Regulations mean that we are only able to allow one parent in the scanning room for the test.

After the pictures you may go home, the results are sent to the consultant, who will probably send for you to come back to Children's Outpatient's clinic.

Our commitment to confidentiality

We keep personal and clinical information about you to ensure you receive appropriate care and treatment. Everyone working in the NHS has a legal duty to keep information about you confidential. We will always ask you for your consent if we need to use information that identifies you. We will share information with other parts of the NHS to support your healthcare needs, and we will inform your GP of your progress unless you ask us not to. You can help us by pointing out any information in your records which is wrong or needs updating.