

Lymphoscintigram

Your doctor has asked us to carry out a Lymphoscintigram on you.

Appointment details

Patient name:

Date of appointment:

Time of appointment:

Injection time:

Scan time:

Every effort will be made to keep to this time, but due to the nature of the investigations, delay can occur for which we apologise in advance.

If you are unable to keep your appointment, please inform us at least 24 hours in advance of your scan, due to the high cost of the non-returnable Radio-isotope used during this scan there will be a cancellation cost of £300 if cancelled with less notice.

Please telephone 01483 442696, so an alternative appointment can be arranged for you.

What does the Lymphoscintigram involve?

The lymphoscintigram is used to investigate the lymph nodes and lymphatic system. It involves injections into your feet of a small amount of radioactive tracer. It is a safe and simple procedure. The radioactive tracer circulates in the blood and collects in the lymph nodes. It is then detected from outside the body using a special machine called a gamma camera and a scan is taken. Scans are taken immediately after injection, and at 30 minutes, 2 and 3 hours after the injection.

Preparation required for the Lymphoscintigram

You may eat, drink and take your medication as normal

Can I bring somebody with me?

It is very important that you do not bring children or pregnant friends with you because the scan uses radiation and children and pregnant women are particularly susceptible to radiation.

Special Warnings

You may feel some discomfort from the pinprick of the injection. Side effects from the injection are extremely rare.

A very small amount of radioactivity is injected into your body. The risk this involves is very small and your physician will not consider carrying out the investigation unless he believes that the risk is outweighed by the potential benefit of the study.

Further guidance has been published by Public Health England.

Visit website- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ionising-radiation-from-medical-imaging-examinations-safety-advice>

Do I need to do anything after the scan?

You may eat and take your medication as normal. For the next 6 hours, the more fluid you drink and empty your bladder the better, as radioactivity is passed out in the urine

Also, it is advised that for 12 hours following the radiopharmaceutical injection, you should avoid prolonged close contact with pregnant women, babies and children.

Further information is available should you require it.

Information for ladies

If you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant, we need to know before the injection of radioactivity.

In addition, if you are currently breastfeeding, again please inform the staff, as for certain procedures you may have to discontinue breast feeding for a certain period.

For further information please contact us in the Molecular Imaging unit on 01483 442696