


Harefield Hospital

Your nuclear medicine SPECT-CT scan





This leaflet gives you general information about your SPECT-CT scan. It does not replace the need for personal advice from a qualified healthcare professional. Please ask us if you have any questions.

What is SPECT-CT?

A SPECT-CT scan is a type of nuclear medicine scan where the images or pictures from two different types of scans are combined to provide information about how different parts of the body are working.

SPECT (single photon emission computed tomography) is a scan that uses a small amount of radiation and a special camera to create 3D images. Before we can take these images, we need to give you an injection containing a tracer. This is a substance with a small amount of radioactivity that highlights the part of the body we need to see in more detail.

A CT (computed tomography) scan uses X-ray to create images.

About your SPECT-CT scan

To have your SPECT scan, you lie on a scanning couch and the camera moves around your body. After the SPECT scan, you will have the CT scan. The CT scan is the doughnut-shaped part of the same scanning machine. You will be asked to lie in one position for about

Important point to remember

Please drink plenty of fluids (such as water) before and after the injection for the SPECT-CT scan.

three to five minutes as the scanning couch moves in and out of the scanner.

Your combined SPECT-CT scan takes about 40 minutes to complete. Please keep still during the scan as any movement affects the quality of the images.

How long will the appointment take?

Your appointment with us will take about around three and a half hours.

Is there any risk from the radiation?

The amount of radiation used is small and kept to a minimum. We believe that the benefits of having the test far outweigh any risks. To avoid exposing children unnecessarily to radiation, please do not bring them with you to the department. Please ask if you have any questions.

Female patients

You should not have this scan if you are

pregnant, think you may be pregnant, or are breastfeeding.

Diabetics

You do not need to change your diet or treatment. Please bring your insulin and any snacks as needed.

Are there any side effects?

The substance we give you does not have any side effects. It will not make you sleepy or stop you from driving a car.

After your scan


You can eat and drink as usual and continue with your normal daily activities after your scan. You may go anywhere you like, but please try to avoid long periods of close contact with children for the next 24 hours. This is to avoid exposing them to unnecessary radiation.

Results

We will send the results of your scan to the hospital consultant who asked for the test.

Additional information

Please note that our nuclear medicine department scans many people every day. We try to keep to your appointment time as closely as possible.



However, if you are late or there is an emergency patient, it may not be possible to perform your scan immediately.

Hospital transport

If you need hospital transport to get to us, please ask your GP to arrange this.

Private patients

If you are a private patient please bring your private insurance details to your appointment, otherwise please pay your invoice on the day of your scan.

How to find us

The nuclear medicine department is in the ANZAC Centre, ground floor, Harefield Hospital.

Contact us

If you have any questions about your scan or to change your appointment, please call us on **01895 828 880** (Monday to Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm).

If you have concerns about any aspect of the service you have received in hospital and feel unable to talk to those people responsible for your care, call the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01895 826 572 or email pals@rbht.nhs.uk. This is a confidential service.



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Brosurteki bilginin Türkçe tercumesi için tedavi görüyor olduğunuz bölüme basurunuz. Bölüm personeli tercümenin gerçekleşmesini en kısa zamanda ayaracaktır.

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