



A lifetime of specialist care

SPECT-CT scan

What is SPECT-CT?

SPECT (single photon emission computed tomography) is a scan that uses a small amount of radiation and a special camera to create a 3D image.

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

A SPECT-CT is when both types of scan are carried out in the same appointment and the images are put together.

About your SPECT-CT scan

To have your SPECT scan, you lie on a bed and the camera moves around your body. After the SPECT scan, you will have the CT scan. The CT scan machine is doughnut-shaped and you will lie on a bed in the center.

Your combined SPECT-CT scan takes about 30-40 minutes. Please keep still during the scans as any movement affects the quality of the images.

What are the benefits of the scan?

SPECT-CT provides functional (how the body works) and anatomical (body structures) information to help your doctor diagnose your condition.

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
- Avoid long periods of close contact with them for the next 24 hours, or as stated by the technologist.

If you have any concerns that you would like to discuss, please contact us.

After your scan

You can eat and drink as usual and continue with your normal daily activities after your scan.