

Information about your Nuclear Medicine Heat Damaged Red Cell Scan



Your doctor has referred you for a Nuclear Medicine Heat Damaged Red Cell Scan.

It is important that you read the enclosed booklet "Information about your Nuclear Medicine Test" with this leaflet.

What is a Heat Damaged Red Cell Scan?

A Heat Damaged Red Cell scan is a simple test that allows us to take pictures of any remaining splenic tissue in your abdomen.

Do I need to do any special preparation before the Heat Damaged Red Cell Scan?

There is no special preparation for this test, you can eat, drink and take medication as normal.

What does a Heat Damaged Red Cell Scan involve?

We will take some blood and this will be labelled with a small amount of radioactivity. The labelling can take up to 3 hours. We will inject your labelled blood back into your arm and then take some pictures of your abdomen.

The radioactive material used for this scan is licensed in the European Union (EU). There are no United Kingdom (UK) licensed equivalent products available. All products we use from the UK and EU are made to the same safety and quality standards.

How long does the scan last?

Scans typically last between 30-60 minutes.

Your appointment

If you can't make this appointment please tell us as soon as possible – we can arrange another appointment.

Pregnancy and Breastfeeding

Where possible we try to avoid performing heat damaged red cell scans on patients who are, or may be pregnant. Therefore please contact the department if you are

- Pregnant
- Breast-feeding
- You think you could be pregnant

If you are booking transport through the Scottish Ambulance Service please contact them as soon as possible and advise them you will be in the department for approximately 5 hours.