

Patient Information about

Gallium Scan

Gallium scans are used to look at the function of lymph nodes in the body.

A special liquid called a radioactive tracer will be injected into your arm. This enables us to obtain good images of these areas when we scan you. During your scan we will ask you to lie on an imaging table, and a series of pictures will be taken. Each set of pictures takes 45 minutes. The radiographer will discuss with you what the examination entails at the time of your injection.

Important Instructions

- Please drink at least a pint of fluid in the hour before your appointment.
- Please take all your prescribed medication as normal.
- Please wear loose and comfortable clothing, preferably with no metal buttons or buckles.
- You can eat and drink normally.
- You will have to attend on 3 separate days for this examination.

You can expect to be in the department for 15 to 30 minutes for the first part of your scan, when a radioactive tracer is injected into your arm. On the 2nd and 3rd appointment you will be in the department for about 2 hours each time. However sometimes delays are unavoidable and we run late occasionally. We will keep you informed of any delays.

Other points

- It is unlikely that you will have any side effects from this injection.
- We will ask you to drink plenty of fluids during the days when you are to attend the department.
- Please be reassured that the scan will not involve you having to go into a tunnel-like piece of equipment.

**If you wish to discuss this test or have any queries, please do not
hesitate to contact the Nuclear Medicine Department
on 01803 655630**