



550 North Hillside Street
Wichita, KS 67214
(316) 962-2000

Bone Scan Patient Instructions

Your doctor would like you to have a bone scan. A bone scan is a nuclear imaging test that helps diagnose and track several types of bone disease. A bone scan is also an important tool for detecting cancer that has spread to the bone from a tumor that started in a different organ. If you have unexplained bone pain, a bone scan may help determine the cause.

Please report to the nuclear imaging department at Wesley Medical Center on the day of your exam.

If you **cannot attend** your scheduled appointment or have any questions, please call the nuclear imaging department at **(316) 962-2840**.

BEFORE THE EXAM

1. No diet or activity restrictions are needed.
2. Remove jewelry and other metal objects immediately before the exam.
3. Wear comfortable clothing.
4. If possible, bring any relevant previous images (ex. X-rays, CTs) or old reports for comparison.

PROCEDURE

A radiotracer liquid will be injected into your arm intravenously. This will gradually absorb into your bones. The radiation dose is very small and reactions are uncommon. Next, a set of pictures will be taken with a special camera that senses radioactivity in your body. The final part of the procedure is performed 2-3 hours after the initial injection. During the intervening period, you will be allowed to eat. You are strongly encouraged to drink plenty of fluids to help clear the excess radiotracer activity from your body and give cleared pictures. More images will then be taken.

The initial step of the procedure will take about 15 minutes. A wait of 2-3 hours then follows. The duration of the final step is usually 45 minutes to 1 hour. Therefore, total time required is approximately 4 to 5 hours.

AFTER THE EXAM

A radiologist will review the images from your exam and a report with the results will be available to your physician. Your physician will then discuss with you the results of the study and any treatment you may require.

FEMALE PATIENTS

Please inform us if there is any possibility you may be pregnant or if you are currently nursing/breastfeeding.