

Whole Body Bone Scan

(2nd version Aug.16, 2020)

Purposes of this study:

1. To detect the spread of cancer to the bones.
2. To detect fractures.
3. To detect osteomyelitis.
4. To evaluate joint disorders.
5. To evaluate other bone diseases.

Procedure of this study:

1. Fasting is not necessary for this study.
2. In the injection room (or in the scanning room in some cases), the radiopharmaceutical called ^{99m}Tc- MDP will be injected into one of your veins (usually in your arm).
3. After the injection, there is a delay of a few hours (2-6 hours). This delay is necessary to allow the material to accumulate into your bones. You will be told at what time to return for further pictures by the Technologist.
4. Empty your bladder before your scan.
5. The Scan time will vary depending on what your doctor is looking for. Plan to be in the department from 20-60 minutes.
6. If you are an inpatient, you will be returned to your hospital room. If you are an outpatient, you may go home and continue your regular activities.

Other notices:

1. If you have any possibility of pregnancy, please tell us in advance. Pregnancy is a relative contraindication to this test.
2. Drinking plenty of fluids after the injection helps to achieve a high quality picture.
3. Remove jewelry and any metal objects that might interfere with the images.
4. Please keep still during scanning in order to achieve a high quality picture.
5. Please avoid contact with babies and pregnant women the day you receive the low dose radioactive isotope injection. No obvious side effects will occur when in touch with babies and pregnant women. Please do not worry. This test is very safe. No severe side effect has been reported. Allergy could happen but very rare.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any question.

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