

Breastfeeding after your Scan



Why is breastfeeding affected by this scan?

In preparation for your scan, you will receive an injection of slightly radioactive liquid. This liquid stays in your body for a few hours after your scan, and may be passed into your breast milk. Therefore, you should not breastfeed your baby during this time.

Before your scan

You may express as much milk as you are able to before your scan and store this for feeding your baby in the time after the scan.

After your scan

If your baby is less than 5 days old, you could still be producing small amounts of very concentrated thick milk. You should not breastfeed your baby during the 24 hours after your injection in nuclear medicine.

If your baby is 5 days or older, you will be producing larger volumes of milk compared to the first few days after birth. You should not breastfeed your baby during the 14 hours after your injection.

Any milk expressed in these time periods must be thrown away.

If you expressed milk in the time before your scan you may use this during your interruption to breastfeeding. Alternatively, you can use formula to feed your baby.

Breastfeeding interruption time

Please do not breastfeed your baby until:

By following the advice in this leaflet, you ensure that your baby is not exposed to unnecessary radiation.

If you intend to start breastfeeding again after the interruption period of 14 or 24 hours, you will need to express milk during this time so that your milk supply continues to increase. You should discuss this with your midwife if you would like any advice.

Any questions?

If you have any concerns or questions in regards to the information in this leaflet, please telephone the Nuclear Medicine Department on the phone number below:

Nuclear Medicine Department: 01225 824076