

Having a Fibroscan

What is a Fibroscan®?

Fibroscan®, also called transient elastography, is a technique used to assess liver stiffness without the need for invasive investigation.

Why do I need a Fibroscan®?

Measuring liver stiffness is a good way of determining whether there may be scarring damage in the liver. The presence or absence of liver scarring is important information to determine your future care.

What does a Fibroscan® examination consist of?

A Fibroscan® examination is not painful or uncomfortable. You lie on your back, with your right arm raised behind your head.

A water-based gel will be applied and the probe placed with a light pressure to the skin on your right side over your liver.

At least 10 measurements will be taken in the same location.

We will be able to tell you about your liver stiffness at the end of your examination.



How should I prepare for the examination?

Wear loose comfortable clothing that will allow us to easily uncover your abdomen and lower ribs.

Do not have anything to eat for 3 hours before your appointment time. You can drink clear fluids (e.g. water or squash) and take your normal medications with water.

Is there anybody that Fibroscan® is not suitable for?

Patients with significant ascites (fluid in the abdominal cavity).

If you have any questions please ring the Hepatology Nurse Specialists Sara, Fiona, Charlotte, Claire & Louisa on 01225 826471.

Phone line opening times –

Monday 09:00 – 16:30 Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 09:00 – 12:30

Friday 09:00 – 16:30

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If you would like this leaflet in email form, large print, braille or another language, please contact the Patient Support and Complaints team on 01225 825656.

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