

Nuclear Medicine

Your Child's Appointment

This document contains additional information that you may find helpful in preparation for your child's Nuclear Medicine appointment.

Preparation for your child's appointment

- Please check the appointment letter and information sheet for any medications your child may need to stop ahead of their appointment. Please do this as soon as possible as some medications may need to be stopped two weeks ahead of the appointment.
- We will need to know a current weight for your child the week before the appointment so we can give them the correct amount of radioactive tracer to suit their size.
- **In the 24 hour period before your child's appointment** ensure they drink plenty of fluids. This will make giving their injection easier. They may use the toilet as often as needed.

Are there any risks from the radioactive tracer?

Please be assured that your child's doctor has considered the diagnostic benefit against the risk from radiation and has decided your child will benefit from having their test.

If you have concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us to discuss further.

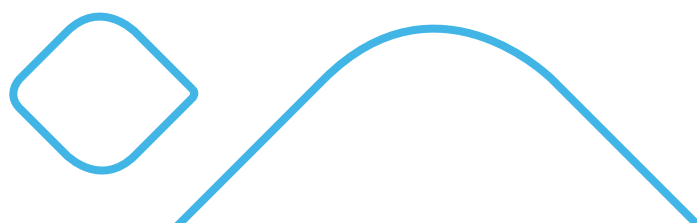
We will use your child's weight to reduce the radiation dose they will receive compared to an adult.

It is okay for you to stay near your child during their injection and scan. You will receive a very small radiation dose if you are close to your child while they are radioactive. This is similar to the radiation dose received from natural sources over a few days.

Pregnancy and Breastfeeding

If your child is female and over 12 years old they will be asked to complete a form confirming that they are not pregnant.

If your child has male healthcare records and was registered female at birth, please talk to the technologist at your appointment so that they can rule out the possibility of pregnancy. This information will not be recorded or shared without your consent.



On the day

- You may have received an appointment letter for the children's ward in B15.
 - This is to have a small plastic tube (cannula) placed in a vein. This is used to give the radioactive tracer through.
- You will then bring your child to the Clinical Imaging and Measurement department in C16 where they will receive their injection and scan.
 - During your child's scan, they may watch a DVD. We have a good collection of DVDs they can choose from or you may bring one along.
 - We can also play music if your child would prefer.
- If your child needs a CT scan as part of the images we collect, you will be asked to leave the room for a few minutes. Otherwise, you can stay with your child throughout their scan.

After your child's scan

After we have completed your child's scan, you may return home.

If your child uses nappies, please ensure these are disposed of in a plastic bag. Also ensure you wash your hands thoroughly afterwards. If you change nappies while in the hospital, please bring them to the Clinical Imaging and Measurement department for safe disposal.

If you have any concerns or questions about your child's scan, or you need this information in another format such as larger print, please call Clinical Imaging and Measurement: **01225 824080**

Clinical Imaging and Measurement Department
Zone C, Department C16
Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust
Combe Park, Bath, BA1 3NG
01225 824080 | www.ruh.nhs.uk

Please contact the Patient Support and Complaints Team (PSCT) if you would like to feedback your experience of the hospital. Email ruh-tr.psct@nhs.net or telephone **01225 825656**

Date of publication: January 2024 | Ref: RUH NM/135

© Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust