

Breastfeeding after your **Lung Scan**

Why is breastfeeding affected by the 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 injection, and may be passed into your breast milk. Therefore, you should not breastfeed for a short period of time after your injection.

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

Before your lung scan appointment

You can express milk before your appointment and store this for feeding your baby or child in the time when you are not able to breastfeed.

- Information about expressing and storing breast milk can be found on www.nhs.uk

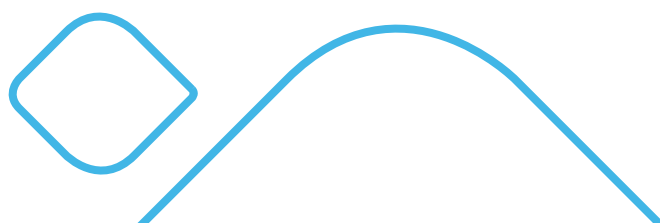
After your lung scan injection

You can cuddle your baby or child, and feed with a bottle as soon as you need to after the injection. If you expressed milk in the time before your injection you can use this during your interruption to breastfeeding. Alternatively, you can use formula during this time.

You should not breastfeed for a while after your injection because the milk could contain a small amount of radioactivity. See overleaf for the time when you can breastfeed safely.

You should express as much milk as possible approximately 4 hours after your injection, and then express as completely as possible at your normal regular feeding intervals. You should throw away the expressed milk until the time that you are told it is safe to resume breastfeeding.

You can then continue to breastfeed as normal.



Interruption times

If your baby or child is 5 days or older, you will be producing large volumes of milk compared to the first few days after birth, and you will be able to start breastfeeding 14 hours after your injection.

If your baby is less than 5 days old, you are probably still producing small amounts of thick, concentrated milk. You should not breastfeed your baby during the 24 hours after your injection.

Breastfeeding interruption time

Please do not breastfeed until:

Additional Information

If you have any concerns or questions with regard to the information in this leaflet, please telephone the Clinical Imaging and Measurement Department on the phone number below.

- Clinical Imaging and Measurement: 01225 824080

If you would like additional advice regarding your breastfeeding interruption, you can also discuss this with your midwife or health visitor.

Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust
Combe Park, Bath, BA1 3NG

01225 428331 | www.ruh.nhs.uk

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.

Date of publication: 28 June 2023 | Ref: RUH NM/094v5
© Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust