

# Nuclear medicine brain scan

PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET NM20



## Your appointment:

Date: .....

Time: .....

Location: .....

Please see our website for more branch details.

## Duration of examination

You may be in the department for up to 2 hours.

## Please bring with you:

- > Your request form
- > All previous relevant imaging
- > Medicare and any Healthcare cards

## Payment on the day of the examination is requested.

For more information on this procedure please call one of our branches.

For more information regarding Benson Radiology please visit:

[bensonradiology.com.au](http://bensonradiology.com.au)

## What is a nuclear medicine bone scan?

A nuclear medicine brain scan assesses the blood flow to the brain, and is useful in the diagnosis of Dementia, Alzheimer Disease and other memory disorders.

## Patient preparation

There is no specific preparation required. You may take your medications as normal.

## What will happen during the examination?

The Brain Scan involves a small injection of a radioactive tracer. There are no side effects from the tracer; however prior to giving you the tracer we would like your brain to be as "rested" as possible.

A small cannula will be inserted into a vein in your arm. You will then be resting in a quiet, darkened room for approximately 20minutes before the injection is given. Following the injection, you will undergo a 3D Scan of your brain, which takes approximately 30minutes. It is very important that you are able to keep your head very still during this time.

## Are there any risks?

This procedure has no known side effects.

## Pregnant, breast feeding patients and carers of infants

This examination is not suitable for pregnant women.

Breast feeding mothers may undergo the procedure, but may need to cease breastfeeding for a small period following the examination. Please let us know prior to your appointment if you are breastfeeding.

For some examinations it may be required to

avoid prolonged close contact with infants and young children. If you have any queries regarding this please speak with our technical staff on the day of your appointment.

## After the examination

The nuclear medicine specialist will review and report on your images. This can take up to 24 hours. For your convenience we can generally deliver the images and report to your doctor. Alternatively your doctor may request that you return later to collect the imaging.

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