

## SCINTIGRAPHY OF INFLAMMATORY FOCI

Scintigraphy is an imaging technique used to evaluate the metabolic processes in the tissues and lesions of the human body. A small amount of radiolabelled substance involved in metabolism will be injected into the patient's body to obtain an image. In the present case, it is a technetium-99m-labelled substance that binds to blood cells that accumulate in the inflammatory foci.

Simultaneously, computed tomography (CT) is performed – with or without intravenous administration of contrast agent, as appropriate.

**The test is used** to visualise inflammatory processes.

### **Inform your doctor and medical staff if:**

- you have experienced claustrophobia or the fear of enclosed spaces;
- you are pregnant, breastfeeding, or will come into close contact with children or pregnant women following the procedure;
- you are unable to lie still.

**The test does not require special preparation.**

### **The procedure**

The duration of the procedure, including preparation, is about 4–5 hours. Before the test, a nurse will speak to you, insert an intravenous cannula and inject a radioactive tracer. The recording will start 2–4 hours after the administration of the radioactive tracer and last a maximum of 60 minutes. Before the test, you will be asked to lie still on your back on the examination table to ensure a high-quality result. If necessary, additional recordings will be carried out 4–24 hour later.

### **After the study:**

- follow your normal diet and drink plenty of fluids to foster removal of excessive tracer from the body;
- breastfeeding should usually be discontinued for 24 hours; removed breast milk should be discarded. Detailed instructions will be given to you by the personnel in the department;
- on the study day try to avoid close (less than 1 metre) and long lasting (over quarter an hour) contact with children and pregnant women;
- study results will be sent to referring physician within a week. If you have a doctor's appointment on the same day or the following day, please inform the study personnel.

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