

Radiology Imaging Services

801 7th Ave
Fort Worth, Texas 76104
682-885-4076

What is a bone scan?

The bone scan can find problems such as bone infections, bone fractures, or bone tumors. The bone scan can also tell us about bone pain.

How we do a bone scan

A member of our Radiology team will meet with you. We will ask about your child's history, tell you about the procedure and answer your questions. We use an IV for the exam.

Starting an IV:

1. An IV is a very tiny tube we place in a hand, arm or foot vein. Tape holds it in place.
2. We have different types of numbing medicines to help take away the ouch. Some work very fast. Others may take up to an hour to work. Please ask us about them.

Bone scan injection:

1. We put a small amount of radioactive material into the IV tubing.
2. This helps us see bones.
3. It takes time for bones to absorb this material. Your child can walk around while you wait. We will tell you when to return.

**Will my child be sedated?****The bone scan is very sensitive to movement.**

- It is important to lie perfectly still.
- Your child may need sedation if they are young or have a hard time staying still.
- Your doctor will order the sedation when the bone scan is scheduled.

If your child needs sedation, a nurse will call you for additional medical information. Our Radiology Nurse will call the day before with preparation and arrival instructions.

How long does a bone scan take?**Please allow 4 to 5 hours for the entire visit.**

- For about 1 hour, it is important to lie perfectly still while we take pictures.

Special instructions

1. Please report to Patient Registration at your child's scheduled arrival time.
2. Your child won't need special diet changes unless we use sedation.
3. Parents can stay in the room during the procedure unless we use sedation.
4. Please do not bring other children. Your child will need all of your attention.
5. Parents will complete a questionnaire about your child's medicines and allergies.
6. If your daughter is 10 years or over, we will need to fill out a pregnancy questionnaire and possibly do a pregnancy test.
7. If you are unable to keep your child's appointment call us as soon as possible.

Helping your child understand

Child life specialists explain procedures to children. They use special words, toys, and games developed for each age group. This helps children better understand what happens during the exam.

Child Life also helps children relax and cope by using comforting stories and calming exercises.

Let us know if you or a member of your family would like to visit with a Child Life specialist before the exam. You can also call Child Life at 682-885-2677.

After the bone scan

After the exam is over, your child:

May eat and drink as usual and return to normal activities if not sedated.

A Radiologist reads the exam and sends the results to your child's doctor. You may contact your child's doctor for the results.

These instructions are only general guidelines. Your doctor may give you special instructions. If you have questions or concerns, please call your doctor.

My notes
