

## NOTES:

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For more information about Diagnostic Imaging Services of Saint Anne's Hospital, please visit [SaintAnnesHospital.org/diagnostic-imaging](http://SaintAnnesHospital.org/diagnostic-imaging)

### Call location for hours and directions

#### Locations:

#### Complete Diagnostic Imaging Services

Saint Anne's Hospital  
Ground Floor, 795 Middle Street, Fall River  
508-674-5600 ext. 2300 • Fax 508-235-5636  
Free valet parking

#### MRI satellite

The PrimaCARE Medical Center  
289 Pleasant Street, Fall River,  
508-235-5795

Ample free parking, and free valet parking available

#### Saint Anne's Hospital Diagnostic Imaging Satellite X-ray

119 Coggeshall Street  
New Bedford, MA 02746  
508-689-3900



795 Middle Street, Fall River, MA 02721  
Main Number and Directions 508-674-5600

## Diagnostic Imaging Services at Saint Anne's Hospital

For our patients and their physicians, Saint Anne's Diagnostic Imaging Services combines the expertise of board-certified radiologists with a comprehensive range of advanced imaging technology. Our fully digitized network of imaging technology assures the highest imaging quality with less time and inconvenience for patients, as well as rapid access to the results for physicians. Images can be viewed and sent via computer to multiple specialists within the hospital, across town to a physician's office or to other hospitals and specialists in the Steward Family network.

Our dedicated team of physicians and technologists is focused on providing the highest quality imaging and patient comfort. This extends to working with our youngest patients as well as others who require special considerations and appointment scheduling for imaging.

We offer a spectrum of services, including:

- Computerized Tomography (CT) scanning
- Digital X-ray
- Digital Mammography provided in our dedicated Robert F. Stoico/FIRSTFED Center for Breast Care
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Nuclear Medicine with CT capability
- PET/CT imaging
- Ultrasound

### INTERPRETER SERVICES AVAILABLE

#### **Portuguese - Português**

Fala Português? Vamos oferecer-lhe um intérprete gratuito.

#### **Spanish - Español**

¿Habla español? Le proporcionaremos un intérprete sin costo alguno para usted.

Steward Health Care complies with applicable Federal and State civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability or age.

## Digital Imaging: A High-Tech Change for Better Care

Digital imaging creates a "filmless" environment that permits rapid viewing of pictures and secure transmission to physicians whether they are in the hospital, their nearby practice or a specialist located miles away. Digital images are high quality, environmentally friendly and easier to access via PACS (Picture Archiving Communication System). Saint Anne's was the first area hospital to adopt this innovation as part of a Steward Health Care system effort to link our family of hospitals and their expertise.

The PACS system is part of a patient's secure and confidential electronic medical record, which provides for improved care through integration of various tests and reports all in one easily-retrievable location.

#### Care Agreement:

You have the right to help plan your care. To help with this plan, you must learn about your health condition and how it may be treated. You can then discuss treatment options with your caregivers. Work with them to decide what care may be used to treat you. You always have the right to refuse treatment.

[SaintAnnesHospital.org](http://SaintAnnesHospital.org)

Saint Anne's Hospital

A STEWARD FAMILY HOSPITAL



## DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING SERVICES

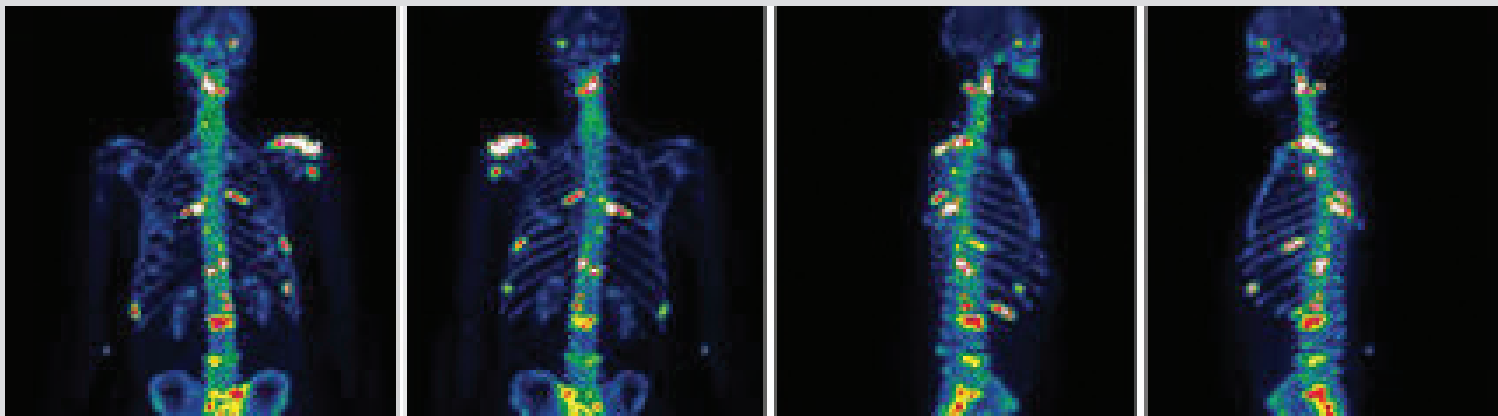


# Bone Scan

## PATIENT INFORMATION



Accredited by the American College of Radiology



## Understanding Your Exam

### What is an Bone Scan?

A bone scan is a test to find areas of increased or decreased bone cell metabolism (me-TAB-o-lizm). Metabolism is the process of tissue cells dying and being replaced by new cells. This test is a type of nuclear (NU-klee-ar) medicine scan that is also called bone scintigraphy (sin-TIG-rah-fee) or musculoskeletal (mus-ku-loh-SKEL-e-tl) scan imaging.

### Why do I need Bone Scan?

A bone scan may be done to check the rate of bone formation. A bone scan may be done to find or help treat any of the following medical conditions:

- A vascular necrosis (a condition where parts of bone die because of lack of blood supply to them).
- Bone diseases, such as arthritis, rickets, fibrous (FEYE-brus) dysplasia (dis-PLAY-zhah), or Paget's (PAJ-ets) disease.
- Changes in the bone after radiation therapy.
- Early stress fractures that have not yet caused the bone to completely break.
- Infection of the bone, called osteomyelitis (os-tee-oh-meye-e-LEYE-tis).
- Shin splints (pain along the front of the bone of your lower leg).
- Trauma, such as broken bones from an accident.
- Unexplained bone pain.

### Who should not have a Bone Scan?

Tell your caregiver before the test if you might be or are pregnant. Caregivers may suggest waiting to have the test until after your baby is born. Tell caregivers if you are breastfeeding. They may suggest waiting to have the test until after you have finished breast feeding your baby.

### How is a Bone Scan performed?

- Your caregiver will tell you what time to come to the Nuclear Medicine department where the scan is performed. A caregiver checks your weight, and then puts an IV (intravenous line) into a vein, probably in your hand or arm. A solution containing a substance called a radioactive tracer is put into the IV. As the tracer decays (breaks down) it gives off gamma radiation. The scan is taken with a gamma camera showing how much of the tracer is in your bones.
- When the scan will be taken depends on the reason you are having the bone scan. The scan is usually done two to three hours after the injection. This gives the tracer enough time to get into your bones. The scan may be done immediately after the injection for some medical conditions. If the scan is going to be done later, you may be allowed to leave and return later at a specific time. Drink plenty of liquids, such as water or juice between the time of the injection and when the scan is done. Make sure you go to the bathroom (empty your bladder) as much as possible.

- When it's time for the scan, remove jewelry and other metal objects, put on a hospital gown, and empty your bladder. As you lie on a table, caregivers use the gamma camera to take the pictures of your bones. You must lie very still during the scan and only move when caregivers ask you to change positions. It usually takes about 30 to 90 minutes to do the scan.

### During The Test

What will I feel during the scan? You may feel discomfort when the IV is put in your vein. The scan itself is not painful, but you may be uncomfortable lying still or changing positions during the scan. Caregivers may offer you medicine which may help you to lie still.

### After You Leave

The tracer leaves your body quickly through your urine. You may continue activities, eat, drink, and take your usual medicines as you did before the test. Drink plenty of water and other fluids to help flush the tracer out of your body.

### What are normal and abnormal results?

All the bones in a normal bone scan look the same and gray throughout. An abnormal scan can have "hot" or "cold" spots. A hot spot is an area that looks black because bone growth is more active. A cold spot is an area that looks lighter or white because bone growth is less active.

### What are the risks with having a Bone Scan?

Rarely, you may develop a rash, swelling, or a serious allergic reaction to the injection. The place where your IV was could bleed, become red, inflamed (sore), or infected. If you do not have a bone scan, caregivers may not be able to decide what would be the best care for your health problems. Call your caregiver if you are worried or have questions about your medicine or care.

## Appointment Scheduling

**508-235-5339**

Monday-Friday 8 am - 6 pm

Your physician's office will schedule your bone scan. Our Scheduling staff are able to assist with all scheduling needs, as well as provide patients and physician practices exam preparation instructions when applicable.

If you are unable to keep your appointment and need to reschedule or if you wish to cancel your appointment, please contact us as soon as possible. A 24 hour notice would be greatly appreciated.

### Pre-Registration By Phone: 508-235-5674

To expedite your visit, please contact our Patient Assistance Center to pre-register for your exam. If we do not hear from you, a member of our staff will attempt to reach you. Please ensure your physician has your most up to date contact information. During the registration process we can assist you with your co-pay, coinsurance, and deductible.

Once you have pre-registered, you can arrive on the scheduled day and time and go directly to the Diagnostic Imaging Services location.

### The Day Of Your Exam

- Use the Valet Parking services where available, Monday through Friday, and reduce the amount of time you spend looking for parking. It's free, and you can pick up your car at the entrance when you are finished with your appointment. No long walks! Hours vary by location.
- For exams scheduled at the hospital: If you have not pre-registered, please go to Patient Registration, located near the main entrance to the hospital, 30 minutes prior to your scheduled exam appointment to be registered for your exam.
- If you are diabetic, inform staff and take your medications as you would normally.
- We want our patients to be as comfortable as possible while having tests performed. However, we ask that you not bring children with you unless you have an adult to watch and care for them while you are having your procedure.
- Pediatric patients must be accompanied by either a parent or legal guardian in order to receive care.