

Three-Phase Bone Scan

Department of the test: Nuclear Medicine (NM)

Purpose of the test:

To evaluate osteomyelitis, stress fractures of ischemic bony necroses, depending on what your doctors want to look at

Notes before the test:

1. You will have some radiation in this test.
2. Preparation before your test is not required.
3. Please don't bring pregnant women or children with you. We don't want to expose them to unnecessary radiation.

On the day of the test:

1. Please check in first at our NM service counter.
2. First, you will have a bolus of radioactive phosphate tracer injected into your veins by our NM physician. Images will be acquired immediately. Then you will be given a break for 2-3 hours before taking delayed images. During the break you should drink a lot of fluids and go to the restroom as you need.
3. After the break, you will return for pictures of your whole skeleton taken by our NM technologists.
4. Your test time may be lengthened if an additional spot review or a 3D tomography is needed.

Total duration of the test: About 4 hours with a 2-3 hour break.

Adverse drug effect of the test: Very rare.