



Having a fibroscan



WHAT IS A FIBROSCAN AND WHY DO I NEED IT?

A fibroscan is a simple, painless test that uses high frequency sound waves like an ultrasound to scan your liver. The scan enables us to determine if you have scarring of your liver by measuring its stiffness.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THIS SCAN?

A fibroscan is a quick, painless test. It does not have any complications or risks and is non-invasive, which means it does not break the skin or enter your body.

ARE THERE ANY ALTERNATIVES TO A FIBROSCAN?

Yes. Your doctor or nurse will explain any alternatives available to you in detail.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO PREPARE FOR THE SCAN?

Please do not eat or drink anything for two hours before your fibroscan.

If you need to, you can take small sips of water or clear fluid, but avoid drinking large amounts of fluid. You should continue taking any prescribed medication. You will not need to remove any clothing for the scan, but we will need to expose the right side of your abdomen (tummy). Therefore, we do not recommend that women wear a dress on the day of their test. You will not need to remove any jewellery near the site of the scan, such as belly button piercing.

WHAT HAPPENS BEFORE THE FIBROSCAN?

You will need to book in at the outpatient reception desk and then take a seat in the waiting area. A nurse will call you into one of the

consulting rooms, where you will be able to ask any questions you have about the fibroscan. Once you have discussed the scan, providing you are happy to go ahead, you will have the test.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE SCAN?

You will be asked to lie on an examination couch and place your right arm above your head. The nurse will feel your abdomen to find the right position before placing the scanning probe on your abdomen to perform the scan. The sound waves will be sent out from the probe in pulses. They will pass through your skin to your liver and bounce back. This will feel like a gentle flick against the side of your skin.

The scanner measures the time it takes for the sound wave to bounce back. We will repeat this at least 10 times to make sure we get an accurate result. The mean (average) reading is then calculated by the scanner, which will show your doctor your liver stiffness. The scan should take between 10 and 20 minutes to perform.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE SCAN?

As soon as the fibroscan is finished, you will be able to leave the hospital and go about your daily activities as normal.

WHEN WILL I GET THE RESULT?

The result will be sent to the doctor who referred you for the fibroscan, who may write to you or discuss it with you.

CONTACT US

Please contact the **liver nurse specialists on:**

- ❖ **University Hospital Haimyres** - 01355 584049
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- ❖ **University Hospital Wishaw** - 01698 361100 Ext 5744

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