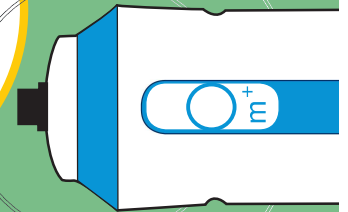
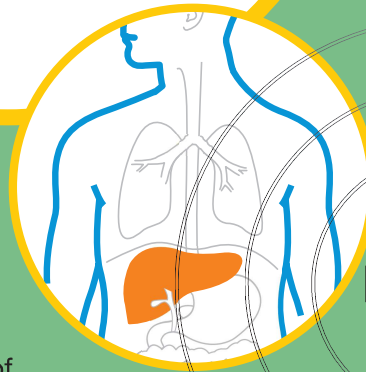
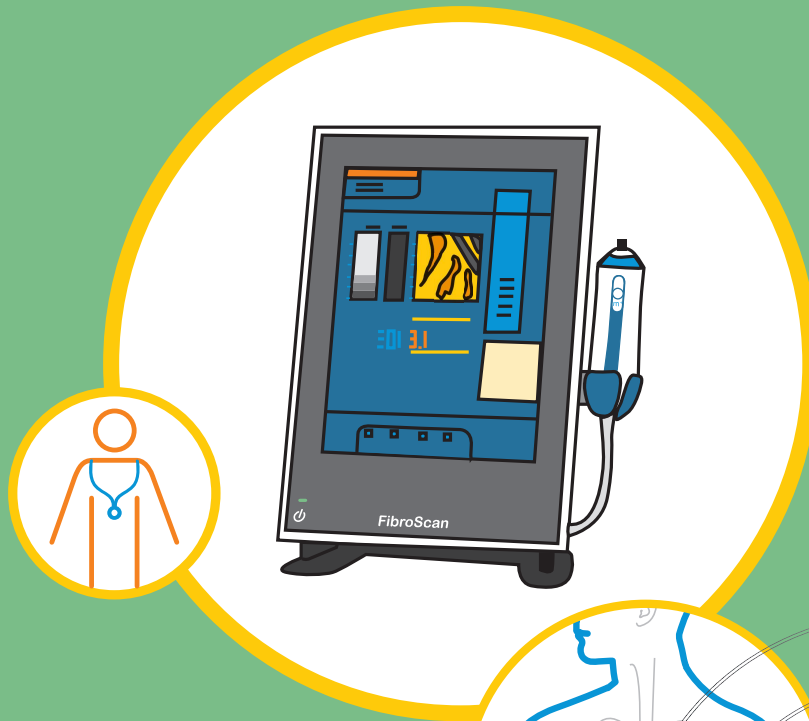


FibroScan

information for patients



Q. What is a FibroScan?

A FibroScan is a simple test to find out how much liver scarring you have. The build-up of scar tissue is called Fibrosis.

A FibroScan is similar to having an ultrasound scan. However, instead of using high-frequency sound waves to create a picture like an ultrasound, FibroScan uses a series of short, pulsed, low-frequency sound waves to measure liver stiffness. The result is displayed as a number, or score, rather than a picture, which tells your doctor how much liver scarring you have.

Q. What are the benefits of a FibroScan?

- The scan will give your doctor more information about your liver condition and help them plan the best treatment for you.
- The test can be done quickly and easily at your doctors surgery.
- You will not need any injections or anesthetic.
- You will be able to return home or to work.

Q. Are there any risks?

A FibroScan has no side effects and after having the procedure you are safe to drive, return to work and carry out your normal daily activities. But we recommend that you do not have this test if you are pregnant.

If you have a heart pacemaker you should let your health professional know.

It can also be difficult to get an accurate fibrosis score using the FibroScan for people with a waist measurement over 100cm.

Q. What happens during the scan?

Your scan will be carried out by a qualified health professional who will explain the procedure and answer any questions you may have. You will be asked to lie on your back with your right arm raised above your head. A gel will be applied to your skin on the right-hand side.

A small hand held sensor is then pressed on the surface of your skin. The gel allows pulsed sound waves to pass through the liver more easily. The gel is wiped off at the end of the procedure.

Q. Do I need to prepare for the scan?

Please ensure you do not have anything to eat for 2 hours before your appointment, unless you have diabetes or your GP has asked you not to fast. You should also take any prescribed medication as you would normally do. You may have sips of water.

Q. Do I need to give consent?

You do not need to sign anything, but your GP will discuss the test with you prior to your appointment and gain verbal consent. This is a legal requirement. When you attend your appointment a qualified health professional will discuss the procedure with you again. If at any time you change your mind about having the scan, please let your health professional know.

Q. How and when do I get my result?

The qualified health professional carrying out the FibroScan won't be able to discuss your result with you at your appointment because it needs to be checked by the liver specialist. Your GP will give you the result at your next appointment.



It takes about 15 minutes, but please allow 30-40 minutes for your appointment.



You are welcome to bring a friend or relative.