

**My father has lung cancer
and his doctor ordered a
Nuclear Medicine Bone Scan.
What is a Nuclear Medicine
Bone Scan and how can it
help?**

A Nuclear Medicine Bone Scan is a way of looking for cancer which has spread to the bones. A radioactive substance is injected into the body; this substance normally goes to bones, but especially tends to go to bones that are affected by cancer. When images are obtained, bones “light up” but cancerous bones often “light up” more, making detection possible. Nuclear Medicine Bone Scans can also be used to monitor therapy since cancerous bones that heal from therapy will often return to normal appearance, whereas they may have an abnormal appearance on x-rays and CT scans indefinitely.

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