

Samarium-153 Therapy

What is Samarium-153 therapy?

Samarium-153, also called Quadramet, is given for pain relief in patients with metastatic bone lesions who are having bone pain. It causes few side effects.

What about radiation?

The dose of radiation in your therapy is based on your body weight. It is an amount to give you the most relief in a safe range of exposure.

How do I prepare for this therapy?

Before starting this therapy, you will need to have:

- A bone scan within 8 weeks of the start date
- Blood work to check your blood count within 6 days of the start date
- A pregnancy test, if you are a woman, within 4 days of the start date

Be sure you have these tests done before the day of your therapy appointment so your treatment is not delayed.

You cannot be pregnant or breastfeeding during this therapy.

You must **avoid getting pregnant or fathering a child for 6 months after** this treatment.

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Learn more about your health care.

How is the therapy done?

The doctor in Nuclear Medicine will give you some information and talk to you about the treatment and possible side effects. You will be asked to sign a consent form. Please ask if you have any questions about the therapy or if there is anything on the consent form that you do not understand.

The results of your bone scan, blood work and pregnancy test will be reviewed by the doctor. If you did not have those done before coming in for the therapy, your treatment will be delayed until these tests are done and the results are available.

You will need to lie down on a cart. An IV (intravenous) will be started to give you some fluids before the injection. The doctor will inject the dose. You should not feel any different when the dose is going in.

Expect to be in Nuclear Medicine about 2 hours for this therapy.

After the therapy

- You will need to empty your bladder as often as you can after getting the injection for the next _____ hours.
- Your doctor may order other blood work to check your blood counts after the therapy.
- In 2 to 3 days, you may have an increase in pain that lasts up to 3 days. Then the pain should ease.

Your appointment

Your therapy is scheduled at _____ on _____.

Your test is scheduled at:

OSU Medical Center, Nuclear Medicine, Room 211, East Doan Hall, 410 West 10th Avenue.

- You need to take the Doan Hall elevators to the 2nd floor. Report to the Radiology registration to the right of the elevators.
- If you need to **change your appointment**, call Radiology Scheduling at (614) 293-4333. If you need to **cancel, we need you to call at least 3 days before** so we can cancel your dose.
- If you have a **question about your test**, please call Nuclear Medicine at (614) 293-5774.