

SCANS, SCANS, SCANS!

Explained

MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging)

This type of scan uses strong magnetic fields and radio waves to produce detailed images. It can take around 20 minutes. You are injected with a contrast dye to improve the clarity of the images and be prepared it is quite loud when you're in there, but they will give you ear plugs and headphones to drown out the noise!

CT (computed tomography)

These scans use X-rays and a computer to create detailed images of inside the body to help diagnose conditions. They inject a contrast dye which contains iodine. They warn you that you will feel a warm sensation in your groin. When it hits you though, you honestly think you have wet yourself, it's very strange- don't fear though, luckily no wet patches!

PET (Positron emission tomography)

These scans produce detailed 3- dimensional images of the inside of the body and can show how well certain parts of the body are working. For cancer patients they can determine how far the cancer has spread and how well its responding to treatment.

