WHAT IS A GHPS SCAN AND WHY AM I HAVING IT?
A GHPS Scan is a test used to determine how well the heart is pumping. It may be performed if there is concern that your heart has been damaged, or to make sure the heart is working properly before and during chemotherapy.

HOW IS THE GHPS SCAN DONE?
The test involves 2 small injections into a vein in your arm. The first injection (Tin or Stannous Chloride) mixes with the red blood cells, and prepares them for the second injection.

The second injection is given 15 minutes later, and is a small amount of a radioactive tracer. This will then “stick” to the red blood cells, so that when you are lying on a scanning bed under a special camera, the blood within the heart can be visualised. You will be required to lie still during the pictures and breathe normally.

The scan will take about 1 hour.

ARE THERE ANY SIDE EFFECTS?
No. The injections have no side effects and are not related to X-ray contrast injections. There is a small dose of radiation from the second injection, similar to the dose of radiation you would receive from a chest X-ray. As the injection will not make you feel different, you may drive after the scan if you wish.

HOW DO I PREPARE FOR MY SCAN?
No special preparation is required.

SHOULD I TAKE MY NORMAL MEDICATIONS?
Yes. Take all of your usual medications.

CAN I EAT AND DRINK ON THE DAY OF MY TEST?
Yes. There is no need to fast for any part of the GHPS Scan.

WHAT SHOULD I BRING FOR MY SCAN?
Please bring your referral letter, Medicare Card, your past GHPS Scans, X-rays, CT scans, MRI Scans, and Ultrasounds.

WHAT IF I AM PREGNANT OR BREAST-FEEDING?
Usually the test is not performed on pregnant or breast-feeding women. If you are pregnant, think you might be or are unsure, please notify the staff prior to the start of the test.

CAN I TAKE THE RESULTS WITH ME?
Before you leave the Department, a Doctor will check the scan and you will be asked to wait while this occurs. Normally the results are prepared after you have left the Department and are posted to your Doctor within 24 hours (they should arrive within a few days). If the results are required for an appointment before this time, please notify staff and a result may be able to be given to you 1 hour after the test is done.

WHERE DO I GO FOR MY GHPS SCAN?
Department of Nuclear Medicine & PET, Liverpool Hospital.
Level 1 Clinical Building, Corner Elizabeth Drive / Goulburn Street Liverpool.
An example of GHPS