

Who needs a Fibroscan?

Patients with chronic hepatitis B and hepatitis C infections.

People with chronic hepatitis B need usually every 6 months regular checks of their liver. These include blood tests, untrasounds and tests for liver damage such as **Fibroscan**. A Fibroscan is recommended every 12 months if not taking treatment.

People with hepatitis C can be cured.

Before prescribing treatment doctors need to check if there is any damage to the liver, Fibroscan can do this.

The result of the Fibroscan may be affected in some people if they are overweight.

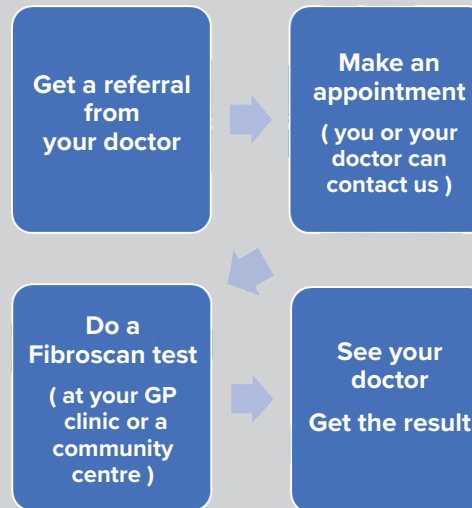
Where can you get a Fibroscan?

Currently Fibroscan is only available in some hospitals and a few non-profit organisations who provide hepatitis services in Queensland, including The Ethnic Communities Council of Queensland (ECCQ).

Who can access a Fibroscan at ECCQ?

People with chronic hepatitis B or chronic hepatitis C from a multicultural background can access **a free Fibroscan at ECCQ**, including people with temporary visas such as international students, people on working and holiday visas and so on.

What is the process to get a free Fibroscan at ECCQ?



A referral form can be downloaded by your doctor at www.eccq.com.au/bbv

It is very important to have your regular checkups including blood tests, Fibroscan and ultrasounds requested by your doctor.



Further information

Please contact ECCQ:

Phone: 07 3844 9166

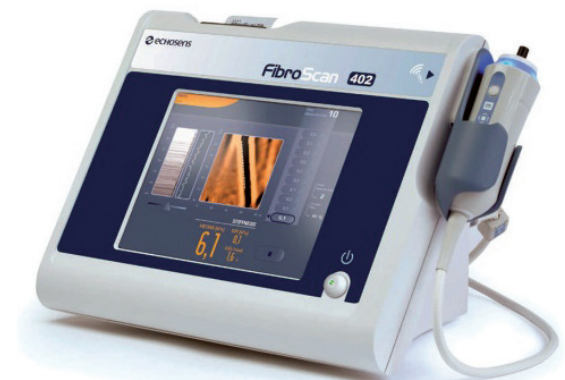
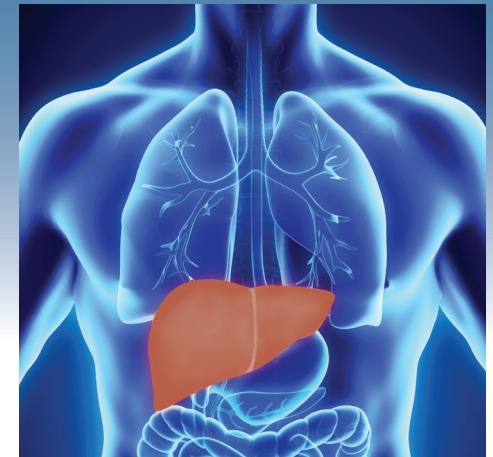
Email: referrals@eccq.com.au

Website: www.eccq.com.au/bbv

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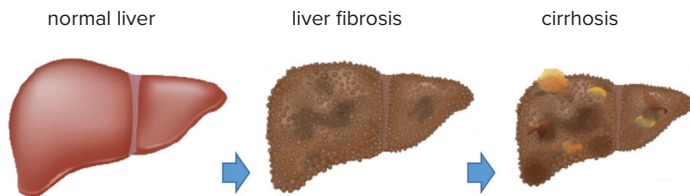
Free Fibroscan



What is a Fibroscan?

Fibroscan is a pain free test to check for potential damage to the liver. Liver damage can happen due to a range of diseases or causes such as chronic hepatitis, fatty liver, long-term alcohol use, some medications including herbal and traditional medicines.

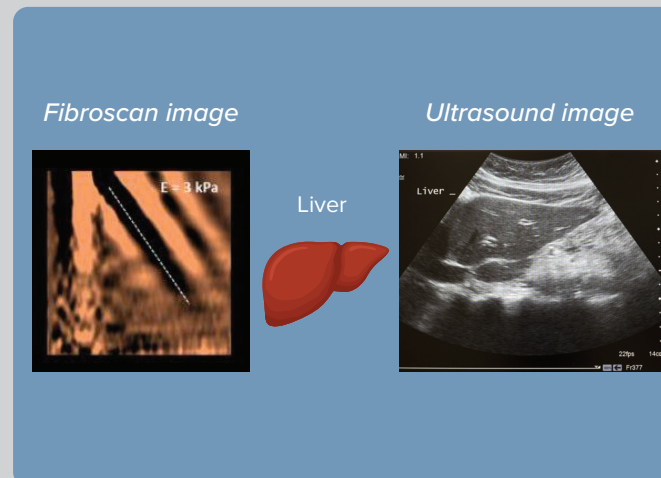
Diseases such as **chronic hepatitis B** and **chronic hepatitis C** can cause scarring in the liver over time without the person having any symptoms. More scarring means more liver damage. Mild scarring is called **fibrosis**. When the damage becomes more severe it is called **cirrhosis**. If this happens the liver may not work and perform its normal functions well.



Regular Fibroscans can help identify early liver damage. If liver damage is identified, the person will need specialised management or treatment to help prevent further liver damage such as **cirrhosis** and **liver cancer** that can lead to death.

Is a Fibroscan the same as an ultrasound?

No. The two tests are different and provide the doctor different information about the liver. The Fibroscan looks for fibrosis or cirrhosis of the liver. The ultrasound looks for other changes such as liver cancer.



How is the Fibroscan performed?

Having a Fibroscan is like having an ultrasound. A small probe is placed on the right-hand side of the body over the liver,



as shown in the photo. It is simple, easy and takes less than 10 minutes to

do. Before the Fibroscan the person should not eat or drink anything for 3 hours (can sip water only - no tea or coffee). Eating and drinking can affect the accuracy of the result.

Is a Fibroscan result accurate?

Yes. The doctor will review the Fibroscan results along with other tests such as blood tests and ultrasounds of the liver to have a better understanding of the disease's progress.

Can a Fibroscan cause any harm to your body?

No. Fibroscan tests do not cause any short or long-term harm to the body. It is also safe to use if the person is pregnant or has a heart implant such as a pacemaker.