

If you have a cold, flu, fever or are feeling ill, contact the Bookings Office at 519-631-2030, ext. 2535 prior to coming for your test.

What is a Nuclear Medicine Scan?

A nuclear medicine scan is an extremely sensitive test that can provide information about the structure and function of specific parts of the body.

What will happen during a Nuclear Medicine Scan?

In a nuclear medicine scan, a small amount of radioactive material, or tracer, is injected intravenously or taken orally. After a period of time during which the radioactive material accumulates in the area of interest in the body, a scan is taken by a special radiation detector, called a Gamma camera.

During the scan, you will lie on your back on a table. The Gamma camera is positioned over the body part to be examined. The camera, the table, or both, may change position during the study. It is important not to move except when directed to do so by the technologist.

What will happen after a Nuclear Medicine Scan?

You will be able to return to normal activities. The radioactive tracer will be completely eliminated from the body within 48 hours. The Nuclear Medicine physician will send the report to your physician. The results will be given to you by your physician.

Test Type, Preparation and Duration

Hida Scan (Gallbladder Scan)

- Do not eat or drink 4 hours prior to exam.
- No pain medications (i.e. Morphine) for 5 hours prior to exam.
- Scan takes approximately 2 ½ hours.

Gastric Emptying

- Do not eat or drink anything after midnight on the day of your exam.
- Inform us immediately if you have an allergy to eggs or gluten.
- Exam takes 3-4 hours.

Meckel's Study

- Do not eat or drink 4 hours prior to exam.
- Test takes approximately 1 hour.

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Test Type, Preparation and Duration continued:

Thyroid Uptake and Scan

- Inform us immediately if you are taking any thyroid medication.
- Inform us immediately if you have had a CT scan or Cardiac Catheterization in the past 6 weeks.
- Do not take any ANTIHISTAMINES for 1 week prior.
- Fast for 2 hours prior to the 1st appointment time only.
- 2 visits:
 - Visit 1 – 15 minutes
 - Visit 2 – 1 hour

Diuretic Renograms

- No water pills or diuretics for 24 hours prior to your exam.
- Inform us immediately if you have any drug allergies, particularly to SULFA DRUGS OR LASIX.
- No caffeine for 4 hours prior to your exam.
- Test takes approximately 1 ½ hours.
- Please consume 3–4 glasses of water prior to the test.

Captopril Renal Scan

- Consume only a liquid diet (e.g. water, soups, juices) during the 3 hours prior to your appointment.
- Your doctor's office will contact you in regards to any medications you may have to stop.
- Scan takes 2–3 hours.