

GUIDES TO PROCEDURES

Bone Scan*

Estimated Time: 3.5 - 4 hrs

Preparation: Encourage fluids. Injection often followed by an initial scan then subsequent scan 2-3 hrs later for a period of approximately 60 mins.

Cardiac Stress Test Myocardial Perfusion*

Estimated Time: 4 - 5 hrs

Preparation: Nil to eat or drink (apart from water) 4 hours prior to test. Patient advised to wear comfortable clothing and footwear. *Patients must NOT have caffeine 24 hours prior to test*, i.e. no tea, coffee, chocolate or milo. No- β -blockers, calcium antagonists or theophylline for 24 hours prior to study. *Diabetics need to contact HNM for specific instructions.*

Cardiac Scan - Gated Heart Pool Scan

Estimated Time: 1.0 - 1.5 hrs

No preparation. Injection followed by scan 30 minutes later for 45 minutes.

Colon Transit Scan

Estimated Time: 0.5 hr per day over a 5 day period

Preparation: Patient must avoid bowel medication, such as sennakot, for 3 days prior and during the week of the test. Starting early Monday am, patient has a low dose radio-isotope drink, returns at 6 hrs later for 30 minute scan. Patient returns for 30 minute scan same time every day for the remainder of the week.

Gallium Scan*

Estimated Time: 0.5 - 1 hr

No preparation. Initial injection, then patient returns for scanning at 48 and possibly 72 hours after the injection. Scanning for 30-60 minutes depending on clinical indication.

Gastric Emptying Study

Estimated Time: 2 hrs

Preparation: Nil to eat or drink 6-8 hours before test. Please ring regarding medications, as some may interfere with test.

Hepatobiliary scan (HIDA)

Estimated Time: 2 hrs

Preparation: Fast 3 hours prior to scan. NO codeine for 2 days prior to scan. Injection followed by scanning usually with administration of Ensure Plus or cholecystokinin for assessment of gall-bladder function.

Liver/Spleen Scan*

Estimated Time: 1 - 1.5 hrs

No preparation. Injection followed by scan 20 minutes later for 30 to 60 minutes.

Lung Ventilation and Perfusion*

Estimated Time: 1 hr

No preparation. Bring current chest X-ray.

Lymphoscintigraphy*

Estimated Time: 2-3 hrs

No preparation. Small injections into the skin at the site, followed by immediate and delayed scanning.

Parathyroid*

Estimated Time: 4 hrs

No preparation. Injection, then scan 15 - 20 minutes and then again approximately 3 hours later.

Renal DMSA Scan*

Estimated Time: 3.5 hrs

No preparation. Injection with scanning 2-3 hours later for 30 minutes.

Renal DTPA/MAG3 with or without Lasix

Estimated Time: 1 hr

Preparation: Patient must drink 1 litre of water, (400 mls for a child) prior to test. Injection and then scan immediately for approximately 1 hour. Bring any previous scans.

Renal DTPA with Captopril

Estimated Time: 1.5 hrs

Preparation: Patient must drink 1 litre of water prior to test. Certain medications to be avoided 2 days prior test include: ACE & angiotensin receptor antagonists. The patient is administered Captopril (usually 25 mg), blood pressure is monitored for 1 hour followed by scan for 30 minutes.

Thyroid Scan

Estimated Time: 0.5 hr

Preparation: No thyroxine for 10 days or neomercazole 3 days prior to study. NO iodinated-contrast agents or amiodarone 6 weeks prior to scan. Please bring ultrasound or CT images if available.

Thyrotoxicosis Therapy (I-131 Capsule)

Estimated Time: 0.5 hr

Preparation: Cease all anti thyroid medications for 3-5 days pre-treatment. Initial consultation & consent required. *Pregnancy must be excluded prior to administration.* Please bring previous scans and recent thyroid blood test results.

White Cell Scan*

Estimated Time: up to 7 hrs

Preparation: For abdominal scans, patients must fast from midnight. Blood sample collected early in the morning with re-injection later in the day followed by scanning approximately 2 hours later. (*subject to availability*)

*Usually performed with SPECT and low dose CT scan (for anatomical localisation and attenuation correction)