

What can I expect after my Nuclear Medicine Test?

You can resume your normal activities, unless the physician or technologist tells you otherwise.

We suggest you increase fluid intake over the next 24 hours to flush the Radiopharmaceutical from your system.

The Nuclear Medicine Physician will review your images and send a report to your physician within 1 week; often sooner. Please follow-up with your physician for your results.

If you are travelling in the week after your Nuclear Medicine Test, please inform the technologist. They will provide you with a travel document declaring your recent visit to Nuclear Medicine. With increased international security measures at airports, borders and major tourist attractions, radiation detectors have been installed which could detect traces of the radioactive material in your body. Having this supporting documentation may help to avoid lengthy delays

What are the risks with having a Nuclear Medicine Test?

A Nuclear Medicine Test is a generally safe procedure. Risks include:

□ Exposure to Radiation

Nuclear Medicine involves the injection of a Radiopharmaceutical, which exposes you to a small amount of radiation, like X-rays do.

Female patients who are or might be pregnant must inform the technologist in advance.

The radiation risk is not well known but believed to be very small. Your doctor has determined that a Nuclear Medicine Test is necessary for your course of health care and feels the benefits of having the test outweigh the risks.

If you are unable to keep your appointment, please let us know at least **48 hours in advance**.

To contact us, please call
(519) 621-2333 ext. 2245

Monday to Friday,
7:30 am to 3:30 pm



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www.cmh.org

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Welcome to Nuclear Medicine



General Imaging Procedure Guide

Your Appointment is booked for

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

Please register at Diagnostic Imaging Reception, Level One, **15 minutes before** your scheduled appointment

What is a Nuclear Medicine Test?

Nuclear medicine is a diagnostic imaging specialty that assesses the condition of organ systems, such as your lungs, bones, liver, kidneys or other organ systems. During the exam a small amount of a radioactive material is administered and a special camera is used to take pictures of your body.

What should I bring to my appointment?

- Your health card
- An interpreter, if required

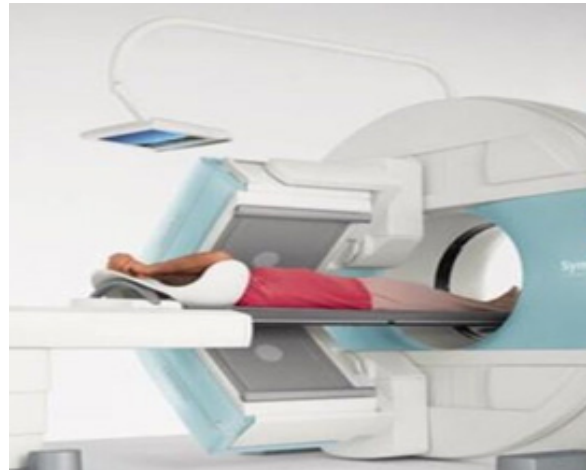
How long will my Nuclear Medicine Test take?

A Nuclear Medicine Test varies in duration from 1 hour to 4 hours and for some tests you may have to return on additional days. To get specific instructions for your test, please contact us (see back of brochure for contact information).

On occasion your appointment may be delayed due to emergency patients taking priority. We apologize for any inconvenience.

How do I prepare for my Nuclear Medicine Test?

- Generally, preparation is not required, but occasionally you will be asked to not eat or or take certain medications prior to your test.
- Our staff will provide you with any necessary preparation instructions before your test. Please ensure you follow those instructions or your test may need to be rescheduled.



What can I expect during my Nuclear Medicine Test?

- A technologist will explain your test to you and ask you some questions about your medical history.
- Most tests require an injection of a radioactive tracer into a vein in your arm or hand. Generally patients do not have any allergies or reactions to these radioactive materials. For lung scans, you are also asked to breathe a radioactive tracer to take pictures of the air flow to your lungs. For thyroid scans you are also asked to swallow a radioactive tracer capsule.
- For some types of nuclear medicine tests, the pictures begin right away and for others there will be a delay before imaging begins or continues.
- If you have a delay before the next part, the technologist will give you instructions for eating and drinking during that time.
- Pictures will be taken using our Nuclear Medicine camera. You may be asked to lie on your back or stomach and may need to lie with your arms resting above your head for some pictures. It is important you hold still and breathe normally during the pictures.