

Nuclear Medicine Examinations

Nuclear Medicine imaging uses small tracer amounts of radioactive materials (medical isotopes), to study your body working inside you. The images are obtained using a special camera.

Usually the isotope is injected and we study blood supply and metabolism of the area being scanned. Most tests are done in two parts, with a delay between tests ranging from 15 min. to 4 hours, depending on the test. The images take longer than X-Rays so expect to be in the Department for 60–90 min. in total. Tests on your heart have two parts on the same day and therefore take longer.

Different organs and tissues can be examined using Nuclear Medicine exams and the common ones performed at the G&M Hospital are:

- **Myocardial Perfusion (MIBI)** studies the coronary arteries of the heart
- **Bone Scans** studies healing of damage, infection and metastases of cancer
- **Thyroid** assesses function &/or lumps
- **Liver & Gallbladder (HIDA)** studies function and blockage.

The correct isotope needs to be ordered for your test so your exam will be booked ahead.

Some scans need no preparation but for others, fasting and holding off medications may be necessary. Your doctor's office will inform you of any preparation required.

Safety Information about Nuclear Medicine Scans

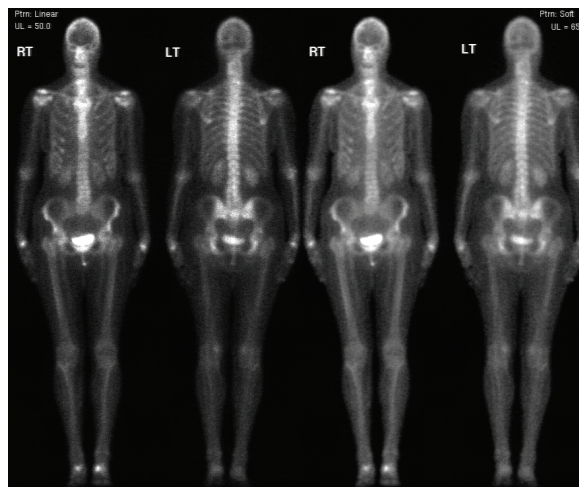
The radiation exposure is from the injection, not from the camera which takes the images, so the length of your test does not increase your risk. Most exams deliver a radiation exposure equivalent to one month of normally occurring background radiation.

There are very few side-effects from the injection that you receive and your Technologist will be happy to discuss this with you if you have any concerns.

Nuclear Medicine scans are not recommended for women who are pregnant or breast feeding.

Scan Results

The images taken by the Technologist are interpreted by a Radiologist and the results will be sent to your physician.



Patients should tell the Technologist if they plan to travel away from Canada shortly after their scan.

WE CARE WHAT YOU THINK

Date: _____ Area/Dept: _____

While at the Collingwood General and Marine Hospital:

	Always	Sometimes	Never	N/A
1. I was cared for promptly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Staff were courteous	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I received satisfactory answers to my questions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I participated in decision making about my care.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. My privacy was respected	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. My dignity was maintained	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. I was provided with follow up or discharge instructions related to my visit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. The Department where I received care was clean	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Overall, I feel my care at the Collingwood General & Marine Hospital was:				
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Very good <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/>

We strive to make your visit to the Hospital as safe as possible. Please use the following measures to do your part:

1. We are a scent free environment; refrain from wearing perfume, cologne or any scented products before arriving for your appointment or visiting patients.
2. Cover your cough! If you are experiencing respiratory symptoms, please request a mask from any of our registration areas and wear it while on the premises.
3. Hand washing protects us all from the spread of infectious diseases. There is hand cleansing gel available in all areas for your use.