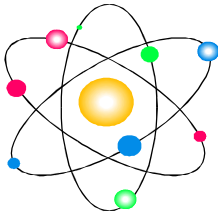


Adrenal MIBG Scan



UHN

Information for Patients



How Nuclear Medicine Works

Nuclear medicine exams assess how your organs work. This is different from other areas of radiology, which create images based on your anatomy.

During a Nuclear Medicine procedure, you will swallow, inhale, or have an injection of a radioactive material called a **radiopharmaceutical**. When the radiopharmaceutical reaches the right area, a technologist will take pictures of you with a special machine called a gamma camera.

What is an MIBG scan?

This study finds or confirms whether you have pheochromocytoma and neuroblastoma.

What is the test like?

- The procedure will begin with an injection of a small amount of radioactive material into a vein while you are lying on a stretcher. Your blood pressure will be measured before the injection and 30 minutes after the injection.
- You will be asked to return in 24 hours, 48 hours and 72 hours for imaging. When you return, you will lie on a scan bed that lets us to take pictures of your whole body. A camera will be placed above and below your body to take pictures at the same time. You will be here each day for 1 hour.

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Created: 10/2008

Form: D-5562



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What happens after the test?

There are no known side effects from the test. You may go back to your normal activities once the examination is over. The report will be sent to your doctor.

Preparation

You will be asked to take potassium iodide tablets (Thyrosafe), pronounced **Theye-row-safe**, for thyroid blockage, once a day starting 48 hours before the injection and continuing for the next 7 days.

- **Bring a list of your medication.**
- If you do not have a blue card from our hospital (University Health Network), please come 30 minutes before your appointment time and go to Patient Registration, located on the ground floor near the Elizabeth Street entrance or at the desk of the main University Avenue entrance.

For female patients

If there is any chance that you are pregnant, tell the technologist **before** you are injected with the radioactive tracer. You will **need to stop breastfeeding completely for this test**, so tell the technologist if you are nursing a baby.

Your MIBG scan has a total of 4 appointments, which have been scheduled for:

- 1) _____ (injection)
- 2) _____ (24hr scan)
- 3) _____ (48hr scan)
- 4) _____ (72hr scan)

If you have any questions or concerns about the test, or if you need to cancel or reschedule your appointment, please contact the Toronto General Hospital Nuclear Medicine department at 416-340-3311.

At Toronto General Hospital, the Nuclear Medicine department is located on the first floor of the hospital, ES1-408, near the east elevators.

Check in at the Medical Imaging reception area (University Avenue entrance, across from the pharmacy) 15 minutes before your appointment.

