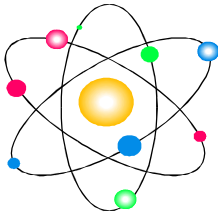


CSF Shunt Scan



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 receive 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 a CSF shunt scan?

A CSF shunt scan is used to evaluate the function and structure of the shunt. It helps to determine the patency of the shunt as well.

What is the test like?

- While lying down, a nuclear medicine doctor will inject a small amount of radioactivity into the shunt reservoir.
- Once injected, the technologist will start taking pictures of the shunt and will continue to take pictures to watch the flow of the radioactive material through the shunt tubing.

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What happens after the test?

There are no known side effects from the test. The report will be sent to your doctor.

Preparation

- There is no preparation for this test.
- If you do not have a blue card from 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.

Please talk with your technologist if you are breastfeeding for more instructions.

Your CSF shunt test has been schedule

on _____

at _____.

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.**