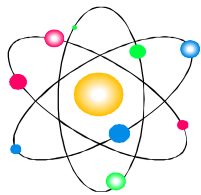


Renal Captopril Scan



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 renal captopril scan?

A renal captopril (pronounced **cap-toe-prill**) scan is used to show how your blood flows to the kidney, and compares how the right and left kidneys are working.

It also helps to find areas in your renal arteries that are narrow or blocked. This may cause high blood pressure (also known as renal **artery stenosis**).

This information is to be used for informational purposes only and is not intended as a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Please consult your health care provider for advice about a specific medical condition. A single copy of these materials may be reprinted for non-commercial personal use only.

© 2008 University Health Network. All rights reserved.

Author: JDMI Nuclear Medicine

Created: 10/2008

Form: D-3358



University Health Network
Toronto General Hospital | Toronto Western Hospital | Princess Margaret Hospital

What is the test like?

Baseline Study (1-1.5 hours):

- A technologist will take your height and weight and you will be asked to drink 4 to 7 glasses of water in 30-60 minutes. You can empty your bladder any time you want during that time.
- You will then lie down on a scan bed and we will inject a small amount of radioactive tracer into a vein in your arm or hand.
- The scan will start right after the injection. This will take about 20 minutes.
- We will then ask you to empty your bladder and return for 2 more images. They will take about 5 minutes.

Captopril Study (2 hour):

- The test is the same as the baseline study, except you will take a medication called captopril 1 hour before the test. We will measure your blood pressure before the captopril and one hour after you receive captopril.

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.

- **Preparing for this test**
- For baseline and captopril study, stop taking all antihypertensive medications the night before the scan if possible. Captopril should be stopped for 48 hours. Enalapril, Monopril and Vasotec should be stopped for 1 week.
- For the **CAPTOPRIL STUDY have NOTHING TO EAT** from midnight before the test.
- **Bring a list of your medication.**
- 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.



University Health Network
Toronto General Hospital Toronto Western Hospital Princess Margaret Hospital

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 24 hours for this test, so tell the technologist if you are nursing a baby.

Your renal test has been scheduled

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 Nuclear Medicine department, Toronto General Hospital 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.**



University Health Network
Toronto General Hospital Toronto Western Hospital Princess Margaret Hospital