

Cardiac gated blood pool scan

What is nuclear medicine?

Nuclear medicine is an imaging modality which uses radioactive tracers to image physiological processes in the body. This allows for functional assessment and imaging of a wide range of systems and organs.

What is a cardiac gated blood pool scan?

This test involves attaching a small amount of a radioactive tracer to your red blood cells. The test is used to determine how well your heart pumps blood around the body.

What preparation is required?

There is no preparation required for this test. You do not need to stop any medication and there is no need to fast.

What is involved?

An IV cannula (small tube) will be placed in a vein in your arm. A small amount of blood (approx. 3 mls) will be removed via the cannula and labelled with a small amount of radioactivity. This labelling procedure takes approximately 20 minutes. Your own blood will be injected back into your arm via the cannula. Images are then taken over your heart for approximately 30 minutes.

Are there any side effects?

Your own blood is used for this procedure. It is handled in a sterile environment. You will not feel any side effects from the tracer, which contains a small amount of radioactivity.

However, it is advised to limit time spent in close contact (less than one metre) with anyone pregnant or children under five years for 24 hours after this test.

How long will this take?

The test will take approximately 1 ½ hours.

How do I get my results?

Digital images are immediately available to your doctor and your records will be kept permanently. This occurs through a system called PACS. **A report is available within 24 hours.**

If your referring doctor wants to see you on the day of your examination, please advise the reception staff when you arrive for your appointment, so the appropriate information can be made available for you to take to your doctor.

How much will this cost?

Please ask reception staff of the cost involved at the time of booking your appointment.

Important

It is important to let us know when you make your booking if you are or think you may be pregnant or are breastfeeding.

It is important to bring with you your referral, previous x-rays and any other tests (only if previous ones were **not** done at Cabrini or I-MED).

Questions

For more information or to make an appointment, please contact Cabrini Medical Imaging using the number below.