

Liver 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 liver blood pool scan?

This test is used to assess lesions of the liver called haemangiomas.

What preparation is required?

There is no preparation for the liver blood pool scan. You do not need to stop any medication and there is no need to fast.

What is involved?

A small volume of blood will be taken from a vein in your arm. The radioactive tracer will be attached to the cells in the blood. You will be given your own blood back via a vein in your arm. Images are then taken of the radiotracer as it passes through your body. A second set of images will then be taken 3-4 hours later.

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 very 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 first part of the test will take approximately one hour. The technologist will tell you when to come back for the second appointment, which is usually between 3 -4 hours later. The second appointment will usually take about one hour.

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 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.