

VQ 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 VQ (lung/perfusion) scan?

A VQ scan is primarily a test to determine whether you have blood clots in your lungs.

What preparation is required?

There is no preparation for this study.

What is involved?

You will be required to breathe in a small amount of a radioactive gas. This enables us to visualize the air supply to your lungs and will not make you feel any different. Following this you will need to lie on our camera bed for 10 minutes while our gamma camera takes images of your lungs. You will then be injected with a small amount of a radioactive tracer which shows us the blood supply to your lungs. A further 10 minute image will be acquired.

You will not feel any different during the test. You will be able to continue with your usual daily activities. The amount of radioactivity used is very small.

Are there any side effects?

No.

How long will this take?

This test usually takes about 30 minutes.

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 MIA).

Questions

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