

## NUCLEAR MEDICINE MECKEL'S SCAN

.....  
(Patients Name)

Please Report to **Medical Imaging Reception**, Level 2, Building 12, The  
Canberra Hospital.

On.....the.....at.....  
(Day of Week) (Date) (Time)

### What is a Meckel's Scan?

A Meckel's scan is a test that is used to locate any abnormal, acid-producing cells in the abdomen, called a Meckel's Diverticulum, which can cause pain and bleeding. We take images of the abdomen to locate any active sites of bleeding.

### What preparation is required?

- Fast from midnight before the test (no breakfast), however water is allowed. For babies, only 2-3hrs fast is required (skip 1 feed)
- No laxatives for 5 days prior to the test
- Please do not schedule any other tests on the intestines (such as endoscopy, barium enema, etc) for 5 days prior to the test
- You will be required to have Ranitidine on the day, prior to the test. Ranitidine may be taken as a tablet (for adults) or given intravenously for infants. Please discuss this preparation with the Nuclear Medicine Scientists prior to arriving.

### What happens during the test?

You will be given a small injection of a radioactive tracer, into a vein in your arm. We will take images of your abdomen for an hour immediately after your injection, and you will need to keep quite still for this time.

### Are there any side effects?

There should be no side effects from the tracer injection, and no restrictions following the test. You will be able to continue with your usual daily activities. The amount of radiation administered is small, and scaled down for children according to their height and weight.

### How long will the test take?

Please allow at least 90min for the test, with the possibility of delayed imaging 4 hours later in the afternoon.

## Can I have this test while I am pregnant or breast feeding?

Your doctors may have requested that you undergo this examination while you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Your doctors will have considered and discussed the risks and benefits of having the scan to the health of both you and your baby.

As part of the procedure you will be given the opportunity to further discuss any concerns that you may have including the potential risks and benefits with one of our staff members.

This examination may have been deemed suitable for you to undergo while you are breastfeeding. You will need to cease breastfeeding for 34 hours following the administration of the radiotracer. It is advised that you express and discard your breast milk during this period. You may resume routine breast feeding after 34 hours. Further information may be obtained from the staff member performing your scan.

If you are / could be pregnant OR are breast-feeding please call us to discuss your options  
It is important to bring any previous test results and your Medicare card with you

Please feel free to call us on 6244 2439 if you have any questions or to reschedule



Nuclear Medicine | phone: 6244 2439 | fax: 6244 2988 [www.health.act.gov.au](http://www.health.act.gov.au)  
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