

Octreotide Exam

Patient Information

What to expect at arrival:

Please arrive 15-30 minutes prior to the appointment. The first place to go after arriving is admissions. The physician's office should have provided a written order to the patient. Please take the order to admissions for registration. After checking in, the next stop will be the Radiology desk. The exam should start quickly from the scheduled time. Since Northeast Georgia is a major medical center there are emergencies that could arise that might extend wait time. Please try to be patient and be assured that we will begin your procedure as quickly as possible.

What is Nuclear Medicine?

Nuclear Medicine is a radiology modality that uses radiopharmaceuticals to image the body's anatomy and physiology. The images are obtained after an intravenous injection or an oral administration of the radioactive pharmaceutical. Depending on the study, the images can take 20 to 30 minutes or could take a few hours or multiple days, depending on the study. The radiation from the pharmaceuticals is minimal, similar to an x-ray.

Patient Prep:

The day prior to the Octreotide Scan take two Dulcolax (or any other over the counter soft laxative). The patient can eat, drink, and take medications prior to the injection and afterward. Please let the technologist know if there is any possibility that you may be pregnant.

Your Octreotide Exam:

When you are brought to the Nuclear Medicine department, a technologist will verify the orders and patient identification. A technologist will ask a series of questions and explain the procedure. An IV will be started in the arm and there will be a small injection given prior to any images. The injection has a small amount of radioactive material that allows images of the whole body to be taken. There is a slight possibility of an allergic reaction, so you will stay in the department for fifteen minutes after the injection to make sure there will be no reaction. Images of the whole body will be taken at 4 hours and 24 hours. Images will take about thirty minutes to an hour and a half each time.

Recovery/Home:

There are no restrictions after the exam is completed. Continue normal activity. The radiologist will interpret the exam and send the results to your physician's office.



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