



DEPARTMENT OF THERANOSTICS & NUCLEAR MEDICINE PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET

GATED HEART POOL SCAN

WHAT IS IT FOR?

A gated heart pool scan (GHPS) is a means of assessing the heart's pumping ability. It allows an accurate means of measuring how efficiently the left ventricle of the heart is contracting by creating an ejection fraction (EF).

This scan may indicate the presence of underlying diseases such as cardiomyopathy or coronary artery disease.

This scan is also used to assess heart function in patients who are receiving chemotherapy which may potentially have an adverse effect on the heart. By measuring the left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF), an optimal dose can be assessed, and by repeating the scan over the course of treatment, the LVEF can be monitored.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

When undergoing a GHPS, you can expect the following to occur:-

- You will be first interviewed with doctor to obtain your medical history.
- You will be asked to remove any metallic items from your chest area.
- You will be injected with a Stannous Chloride (Sn²⁺). This will make your red blood cells "sticky" for the radiopharmaceutical to attach to, however you will not feel any different.
- After a wait of at least 30min you will be directed to the scanner and injected with the radiopharmaceutical.
- You will spent 45min or so on the scanner being imaged.

- Once imaging has been complete, you have finished the procedure. The report will be automatically provided to your doctor in the next few days. Results can be rushed if needed.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

The procedure will take up to 1.5 hours in total. However, it is advised that you allocate additional time for potential delays.

HOW DO I PREPARE?

To prepare for a GHPS you are advised to:-

- Bring any information such as previous films, blood results, medication list etc. with you.
- You may eat and drink before the exam, please ensure you are well hydrated.

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE

- If you are pregnant and/or breastfeeding.
- If you are feeling unwell (i.e. cold, flu etc.) and/or if you are claustrophobic.
- Likely to be delayed more than fifteen minutes from your appointment time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Nuclear Medicine or your test, please call the department on : (02) 8382 1830 or alternatively you can email on: svhs.nm@svha.org.au