

Procedure Information:

Octreoscan

WHEN ARE OCTREOSCAN PROCEDURES ORDERED?

Octreoscan procedures are ordered for:

- Detection of certain types of cancer especially Neuroendocrine Cancers; Carcinoid, Gastrinoma, Insulinoma, Small Cell Lung Cancer

PATIENT PREPARATION

Dietary Restrictions: You should be well hydrated prior to the injection of the isotope and drink extra fluids and void frequently for 24 hours after the injection.

Medication Restrictions: If the patient is receiving somatostatin therapy, it should be discontinued for 48 hours prior to the scan.

If the area we are imaging is the abdomen, our nuclear medicine physician may prescribe Dulcolax to help clear out any tracer that may have accumulated in the bowel.

HOW LONG WILL THIS TAKE?

Upon arrival you will be registered by our office staff. Timeframe: 10 minutes.

A certified nuclear medicine technologist will explain the procedure and inject the isotope Octreoscan. Timeframe: 10 minutes.

You will be asked to return 4 hours after the injection. The technologist will position you on an imaging table and take images of your head and torso. Timeframe: 45 minutes.

Once the images are complete you are free to leave, but you will be asked to return the next day for additional images including tomographic images. 24 hour Images Timeframe: 90 minutes.

Occasionally we will ask you to return 48 hours after the injection, but this is not common.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING AN OCTREOSCAN?

A certified nuclear medicine technologist will verify your identity (name and birth date) and explain the procedure.

You will then be asked to breathe a mist that contains a small amount of a radioactive isotope. Upon completion, usually 4 minutes, the technologist will take you to a camera room, have you lie down on the imaging table and take several pictures of your lung from multiple angles. There are no side effects and test is painless.

Upon completion of the ventilation scan, the certified nuclear medicine technologist will administer an isotope intravenously. He or she will repeat the same images that were done during the ventilation scan.

A board certified nuclear medicine physician will review, compare your ventilation and perfusion lung scan and interpret it. The results will be called to your physician and mailed to him or her within one working day.

