



St. Luke's Imaging Services Patient/Family Information
Molecular Breast Imaging
(MBI)

What is Molecular Breast Imaging?

Molecular breast imaging, also known as MBI, is an exam that may be used to investigate a breast abnormality that has been discovered on mammography.

Nuclear Medicine uses small amounts of radioactive material to diagnose and determine the severity of or treatment for a variety of diseases. In the case of MBI, the exam is usually a follow-up to a mammogram; helping to determine whether a breast abnormality requires a biopsy or surgery. MBI is also requested on women with a history of dense breasts.

Special Note

If you are nursing or if you think you may be pregnant, tell your doctor before the examination. If you have a history of asthma, be sure to communicate this to your physician.

Preparation

- Please bring you medication list with you to your exam.
- Nothing to eat or drink 6 hours before the scheduled exam.
- No exercising 24 hours before the scheduled exam.
- This exam should be performed between days 3 to 8 of your menstrual cycle.

What Happens During the Test?

An injection of a radioactive material into the vein of your arm will be done then images will be taken with our Nuclear Medicine equipment. MBI uses high resolution gamma cameras that will compress the breast, similar to but not as tightly as a mammogram exam. Four sets of images are taken (2 of each breast) and take about 10 minutes for each set. Please plan for about 60 minutes total to complete this procedure.

After the Test

A nuclear medicine doctor will interpret the results of the scan and send them to your doctor who will discuss the results with you. Routinely it takes about 1-2 days for your physician to review the results along with your medical history after which time, your physician will contact you.

Outpatient Instructions

Your exam will be performed at the PCI Building (202 10th Street SE, Cedar Rapids) in the Breast & Bone Department on the second floor. Please register at the Breast & Bone Department. Thank you.

Name _____ Date _____ Time _____