



St. Luke's Imaging Services Patient/Family Information  
**Nuclear Medicine Prostate Scan**

## Why is a Prostate Scan Performed?

A Nuclear Medicine Prostate scan is an exam done to detect the spread of prostate cancer beyond the prostate gland.

## Preparation

Please bring your medication list with you to your exam.

No preparation is necessary prior to the first appointment. Please see the following instructions for information about additional preparation after the first visit.

Patients who have had any prior exams that are murine-based such as a previous prostate scan or a CEA scan should notify the nuclear medicine department prior to the visit.

## How is the Procedure Performed?

The exam is completed in three visits.

The first visit will take approximately 45 minutes and is scheduled on a Thursday. During this visit, an initial blood pressure and pulse will be taken, an IV injection of a small amount of radioactive material will be injected very slowly over a period of five minutes. The patient will be instructed to wait for 30 minutes, after which time a second blood pressure and pulse will be taken. The patient will be given magnesium citrate to drink and two Fleet enemas for home use with instructions. The patient will also be instructed to keep themselves adequately hydrated and will be given a list of high fiber foods that should be eaten from this point on until the next visit which will be 96 hours later on Monday.

The second visit will take approximately two hours at which time you will be asked to lie on your back and a specialized gamma camera will take images.

A third visit on the following day will take approximately 90 minutes to again take images.

## When Will I Know the Results?

The radiologist will review and interpret the scan shortly after the exam is completed. A written report will be sent to your doctor. Your doctor will discuss these results with you. Please allow your physician the time needed to review these results.

## Outpatient Instructions

Please register at the Outpatient Registration desk at the West Entrance. After registering, testing will be done in the Imaging Services department on the second floor. Please use the elevators past registration on the left.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Exam date/time \_\_\_\_\_