



## St. Luke's Imaging Services Patient/Family Information

# Nuclear Medicine Meckel's Scan

## What is a Nuclear Medicine Meckel's Scan?

A nuclear medicine Meckel's scan is a diagnostic exam used to detect or rule out a Meckel's Diverticulum.

It is common for a Meckel's diverticulum to have the same gastric mucosa as the lining of the stomach. The radiopharmaceutical injection used for imaging accumulates in the gastric mucosa and will localize or show a Meckel's diverticulum on the scan.

## Special Note

Before the exam, please tell your doctor if you are or think you may be pregnant or are nursing.

## Preparation

You will be asked not to eat or drink anything for 4 hours prior to your scheduled appointment time.

Your physician's office will instruct you about medication to take as part of your prep.

## What Happens During the Test?

A nuclear medicine technologist will perform the exam. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask the technologist to answer them before the exam begins. He or she can explain the entire procedure.

After verifying the time of your Pepcid dose, the technologist will inject a radiopharmaceutical (a diagnostic drug which contains a very small amount of radioactivity) into a vein in your arm. Then, while you lie flat, a special camera is placed over your abdomen and images are taken. Typically, many images are taken over approximately 30 minutes. It is important that you lie as still as possible during imaging.

After 30 minutes, the images will be reviewed with a radiologist to determine if any additional images are required. If not, the exam is completed and you may leave.

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_