

UnityPoint Health - Finley Hospital Radiology 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 nursing.

Preparation

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

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.

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 one hour. It is important that you lie as still as possible during imaging.

After one hour 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.

There are no after effects from the imaging study.

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

If you have been pre-registered over the phone, you may go directly to the Radiology Department on the 2nd floor of the hospital. Please allow 15 minutes prior to your appointment time to sign the required forms. Please bring your insurance card.

If you **have not** been pre-registered over the phone, go to the Admitting/Registration Department, located inside the hospital main entrance on the 2nd floor.

Name: _____

Exam Date/Time: _____