

NUCLEAR MEDICINE Qp:Qs SHUNT STUDY

.....
(Patients Name)

Please Report to **Medical Imaging Reception**, Level 2, Building 12, The
Canberra Hospital.

On.....the.....at.....
(Day of Week) (Date) (Time)

What is a Qp:Qs Shunt Study?

This investigation is useful for patients with a variety of cardiac and pulmonary conditions. Generally shunt studies are performed where a patient has abnormal movement of blood from the left side of the heart to the right. The left to right shunt may cause the patient to have high pulmonary pressures due to the heart trying to maintain normal blood flow and output. This may make the patient feel short of breath or experience palpitations.

This investigation helps the referring doctor determine the severity of the shunt and decide on an appropriate treatment regime.

What preparation is required?

There is no specific preparation for this test – you do not need to fast, or skip any medications.

What happens during the test?

You will be positioned on the scanning table with cameras both above and below. You will then be given a rapid injection of a Technetium based tracer into a vein in your arm. Imaging will commence immediately, so you need to lie very still. The Nuclear Medicine Technologist performing the scan will let you know when you can move and when the scan is finished.

Are there any side effects?

There should be no side effects from the tracer injection, and no restrictions following the test. You will be able to continue with your usual daily activities. The amount of radiation used is quite small.

How long will the test take?

Please allow 1 hour for the entire scanning procedure

Can I have this test while I am pregnant or breast feeding?

Your doctors may have requested that you undergo this examination while you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Your doctors will have considered and discussed the risks and benefits of having the scan to the health of both you and your baby.

As part of the procedure you will be given the opportunity to further discuss any concerns that you may have including the potential risks and benefits with one of our staff members.

This examination may have been deemed suitable for you to undergo while you are breastfeeding. You will need to cease breastfeeding for 12 hours following the administration of the radiotracer. It is advised that you express and discard your breast milk during this period. You may resume routine breast feeding after 12 hours. Further information may be obtained from the staff member performing your scan.

It is important to bring any previous test results and your Medicare card with you

Please feel free to call us on 6244 2439 if you have any questions or to reschedule



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