



NUCLEAR MEDICINE BRAIN SCANS

radiology SA

Your appointment

Date:

Time:

Patient Preparation:

Nil.

Time for Examination:

1.5 hours

Please Bring:

All previous Imaging including Nuclear Medicine Scans, X-rays, US, CT and MRI studies.

Location:

**Calvary Hospital
X-Ray Department
89 Strangways Tc
North Adelaide SA 5006**

Parking:

Free on-street parking is available (1hour, 2 hour and all day). Please take note of parking time limits as this area is patrolled by council.

Radiology SA Nuclear Specialists:

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Your doctor has recommended that you have a Nuclear Medicine Brain Scan.

To begin the study a small cannula (plastic tubing or a “drip”) will be placed into a vein in either your arm or hand. This is like having a “drip” put in and the cannula will remain in your arm for the duration of the test. This cannula will be used later to give you a small injection of a radioisotope for the purpose of the study.

When the injection of isotope is given, it is important that your brain is not “over-active”. To ensure this, you will be asked to lie on a bed in a quiet darkened room following the insertion of the cannula. After around 5 minutes, the doctor will enter the room and will inject a radioisotope through the cannula in your arm. This injection has no side effects and will not interfere with any medications you may be taking. The injection is painless.

Following the injection you will be positioned under a gamma-camera for imaging. The length of the scan is approximately half an hour and it is very important that you keep your head still for this time.

When the doctor has reviewed your images, the cannula will be removed from your arm and your test will be complete.

This study is unsuitable for pregnant women. We also advise that pregnant carers looking after patients having a brain scan avoid prolonged contact for at least 12 hours after the study. This is to avoid a primary carer’s foetus being exposed to small amounts of radioactivity unnecessarily. Breast-feeding mothers can have a Nuclear Medicine Brain Scan but avoiding feeding from the breast and prolonged close contact with your baby is suggested for 12 to 24 hours after the injection. Feeding your baby with expressed breast milk or formula is recommended during this time. Patients who will be the primary care-giver to children under five on the day of the test, are encouraged to maintain a certain distance (around 1 metre) from the children where possible. This is not essential but is recommended in the 12 hours following injection, to avoid very young children being exposed to small amounts of radioactivity unnecessarily.

**For more information please contact:
08 8402 0270**