



radiology SA

NUCLEAR MEDICINE GI BLEED STUDY

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Your Appointment

Date:

Time:

Patient Preparation:
Nil.

Time for Examination:
2—6 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.

Your doctor has recommended that you have a Nuclear Medicine Gastro-Intestinal (GI) Bleed Study.

To begin the study a technologist will need to label your red blood cells. Although this sounds complicated, it is actually a relatively simple procedure. To begin you will be given a small injection into a vein (usually in your arm) that prepares your blood cells for the radioactive label. There are no side effects to this injection and it will not interfere with any medications you may be taking. After approximately 15 minutes, a small sample of your blood will be taken. This sample is taken back to the lab where a small amount of radioactivity is added to it. After a further 15 minutes you will be positioned under a camera and re-injected with your labelled blood. Again, there are no side effects to the radioactive label and it will not interfere with any medications you may be taking. Imaging will commence immediately following re-injection.

Imaging simply means that the camera will be positioned over your abdomen and will take continuous pictures. This is a painless procedure. You will be required to keep still but will be able to breathe normally.

Imaging will continue for one hour and then your pictures will be reviewed. The purpose of this study is to detect any active bleeding within your gastro-intestinal tract. If no bleeding is detected within the first hour, a second hour of pictures will commence. Generally speaking, imaging will continue until the site of bleeding is detected. This may take several hours. Although imaging is a painless procedure, you will be given breaks if needed.

This study is unsuitable for pregnant women. Breast-feeding mothers can have a Nuclear Medicine GI Bleed Scan but will be required to express and discard their breast milk for 24 hours after the injection. 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.

Radiology SA Nuclear Specialists:

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