



radiology SA

Your appointment

Date:

Time:

Patient Preparation:

Fasting 8 hours.

Time for Examination:

2.5 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:

Dr Rey Casse MBBS, FRACP
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NUCLEAR MEDICINE GASTRIC EMPTYING SCAN

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Your doctor has recommended that you have a Nuclear Medicine Gastric Emptying Scan. This study, although time consuming, is very simple.

All patients must fast for 8 hours prior to a gastric emptying study.

At the start of the study you will be given a small "meal" to eat. This meal will consist of a 100gm mince beef meat patty fried with egg white and a glucose drink. No condiments can be added to the meal as this would interfere with the accuracy of the study. Added to the meal is a small amount of radioactivity (usually in the mince meat). This does not alter the taste of the food but will allow the gamma camera to track the passage of food through your stomach. There are no side effects to the radioactivity and it will not interfere with any medications you may be taking.

It is important that you tell us at the time of your booking if you have any food allergies or if you are vegetarian as alternative meals can be organised. Vegetarian meals do compromise the quality of the study (as there is only a very limited database of normal cases to compare results with) so we encourage all patients to eat the meat patty if possible.

Generally we like you to eat your small meal within 5 minutes. Imaging then commences immediately. For the scan you will be asked to stand facing a camera for 1 minute and then asked to stand with your back to the camera for 1 minute. You will be asked to do this every fifteen minutes for a total of 2 hours. Please feel free to bring a book or activity (knitting etc) to use between pictures.

Occasionally some doctors are interested in seeing the difference in how your stomach empties solid food and liquids. In these cases you will need to have this study done twice—once with the radioactivity in your meat and once with the radioactivity in your drink. You must have at least one day break between scans (eg. Solid test Monday and Liquid test Wednesday).

This study is unsuitable for pregnant women. Breast-feeding mothers can have a Nuclear Medicine Gastric Emptying Scan. Avoidance of breast feeding and prolonged close contact with your baby is suggested for 12 hours after eating the test meal. Feeding your baby with expressed breast milk or formula is recommended during this time.

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

