

Thank you for choosing Yale New Haven Hospital

We are looking forward to providing you with exceptional care.

Your physician has ordered a Nuclear Medicine exam. Physicians use nuclear medicine Lung Scan imaging to diagnose pulmonary embolism and/or to evaluate lung disease, such as emphysema and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Yale New Haven Hospital Preparation for this Exam:

Before Arriving for Your Exam

- Please arrive **15 minutes** early to check in.
- Children accompanying patients during visits:
 - Unfortunately, we cannot routinely supervise your children during your imaging study. We believe that you are best served when we can provide 100% of our attention to you. Therefore, we encourage you to make childcare arrangements or to bring a responsible adult with you to supervise your children.
- There are no food restrictions during this exam.
- A Chest X-Ray is usually required within 24 hours.
- Wear loose comfortable clothing, since you will need to lie still for a period of time.
- We want to make your waiting time as pleasant as possible. Consider bringing your favorite magazine, book or music player to help you pass the time.
- Please leave your jewelry and valuables at home.

After Arriving

- Upon arrival, a technologist will explain your procedure and answer any questions you may have.
- ATTENTION Females (ages 10 to 55)
To ensure Radiation Safety, the following is YNHH Policy on pregnancy test for this Radiology exam.
 - PARENTS: A pregnancy test is required on all females (ages 10 to 17) prior to the start of the exam.
 - Females (ages 18 to 55) may either sign a waiver stating that there is no chance that you could currently be pregnant, or have the choice to take a pregnancy test prior to the exam

During Your Exam

- This is a two-part test.
- For the first part of your test will look at the air supply to your lungs. You will be asked to put on a mask and breathe very small particles of a radioactive aerosol (the mask will be on for about 5 minutes). You will not experience any side effects while breathing this material.
- Initial set of pictures (images) will be taken of your lungs using a special nuclear medicine camera. You will be asked to lay on your back with your arms over your head. The camera does not produce any radiation, it simply detects and records the distribution of the radioactive material in your lungs. This part of the test will take about 15 to 20 minutes and will show the areas of your lungs which are receiving air.
- For the second part of your test, you will receive an intravenous injection (in your vein) of a tracer dose of radioactive material. The level of radioactivity used for this procedure is extremely low and has no side effects.
- Immediately following your injection a second set of images of your lungs will be taken. This part of the test will take about 15 to 20 minutes and will show the areas of your lungs which are receiving blood.

Exam Duration

- This test takes about 60 minutes.

After Your Exam

- There are no restrictions placed on you after this procedure. You may eat and drive as normal.
- Your exam will be interpreted by a Radiologist (a doctor who is an expert in understanding these exams). A report will be sent to your provider, who can review the results with you.

*For more general information on what to expect during your upcoming radiology exam.

Visit this link to **Nuclear Medicine - General at RadiologyInfo.org**

RadiologyInfo.org is the public information resource developed by health care professionals in collaboration with patients. It was established to inform and educate the public about how various x-ray, CT, MRI, ultrasound, radiation therapy and other procedures/exams are performed and what you may experience during your procedure.

RadiologyInfo.org is sponsored by the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) and the American College of Radiology (ACR).

**Yale New Haven Hospital thanks you for
choosing us to be part of your healthcare team.**