

Nuclear Medicine: Hepatobiliary Scan (HIDA Scan)

To Schedule: (319) 861-7778

Questions about Procedure: (319) 398-6050

What is a Hepatobiliary Scan?

A hepatobiliary scan is a Nuclear Medicine exam used to evaluate the function of the gallbladder. This is accomplished by injecting a small amount of radiotracer into a vein and imaging as the tracer goes through the liver into the gallbladder and then excreted into the small intestine.

There are two types of exams. One of these, a drug called Kinevac is administered to further evaluate the ejection capacity of the gallbladder. The other does not require the administration of Kinevac. Consult your doctor to find out which exam you will have.

The exam time is variable. In most cases, it takes 2 hours, however please plan on 3 hours. You will be lying on your back for extended periods of time. To pass the time, you can bring an Ipod, or other music device equipped with headphones with you.

Preparation:

1. Do not eat or drink anything at least four (4) hours prior to the exam
2. Do not take any narcotic pain medications for at least six (6) hours prior to the exam
3. If you have diabetes or concerns about either restriction, consult your physician prior to the exam

PLEASE BRING A LIST OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS YOU ARE TAKING.

Procedure:

1. An IV will be started to use throughout the test and inject the radiotracer.
2. Once the radiotracer is injected, you will be positioned on the imaging table.
3. Imaging will be started. The length of time will be variable depending on your hepatobiliary system. What must be seen is the migration of the tracer through your liver, into the gallbladder and extraction into the small intestine. This will take a minimum of 30 minutes and can take as long as two (2) hours.
4. If your physician ordered evaluation of ejection fraction, a second set of images will be taken. This will be 45 minutes of imaging. During this time, Kinevac will be administered through your IV port.

Parking/Registration:

Park in the Mercy Medical Center 10th Street Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 10th Street and 8th Ave. SE. You will be pre-registered, so you can proceed to **Ground (G)** level and follow the signs to “Radiology (X-Ray),” also located on Ground (G) level.

Procedure Results (Who interprets the results):

A radiologist will review the images shortly after the exam is completed. A written report will be sent to your doctor. Your doctor will discuss the results with you. Please allow your physician time to review these results, usually 2 business days after the exam.

Your appointment date and time:

Procedure date: _____

Procedure time: _____