WHAT IT IS:
A lung ventilation perfusion scan is used to detect blockage of the lungs or to measure air flow or blood flow to the lungs. The scan takes about 45 minutes.

PREPARATION:
1. No special preparation is needed. If you are pregnant or think you might be, notify your doctor and tell the technologist when you arrive in the department.
2. You must have a chest x-ray within 12 hours of the scan. If a chest x-ray has not been done, it will be done at the time of the lung scan.

PROCEDURE:
1. The ventilation part of the scan is done first. You will breathe a small amount of radioactive gas through a face mask, and images will be taken for about 6 minutes. These pictures will show air flow to the lungs.
2. Following the ventilation part of the scan, you will be given an intravenous injection of a radioactive tracer material, usually in a vein in the arm. After the injection, 6 more images will be taken to show the blood flow to the lungs.

FOLLOW-UP:
The radiologist will read these films and send a report to your doctor.

OUTPATIENT REGISTRATION:
Please arrive 20 minutes before your scheduled appointment time. Park in the Mercy Medical Center Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 8th Street and 8th Avenue SE. You must register PRIOR to your procedure. Upon entering the hospital, proceed to Ground (G) level and follow the signs to “Registration.” After 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday or on the weekends, proceed to Ground (G) level and follow the signs to the “Emergency Department” and register there. After registering, follow the signs to “Radiology (X-Ray)”, also located on Ground (G) level.

Your appointment date and time: ________________________________