

MIBG Scan

What to expect at arrival:

Please arrive 30 minutes prior to the appointment. The first place to go after arriving is admissions. The physician's office should have provided a written order to the patient. Please take the order to admissions for registration. After checking in, the next stop will be the Radiology desk. The exam should start quickly from the scheduled time. Since Northeast Georgia is a major medical center there are emergencies that could arise that might extend wait time. Please try to be patient and be assured that we will begin your procedure as quickly as possible.

What is Nuclear Medicine?

Nuclear Medicine is a radiology modality that uses radiopharmaceuticals to image the body's anatomy and physiology. The images are obtained after an intravenous injection or an oral administration of the radioactive pharmaceutical. Depending on the study, the images can take 20 to 30 minutes or could take a few hours or multiple days, depending on the study. The radiation from the pharmaceuticals is minimal.

Patient Prep:

Prior to the MIBG Scan the patient needs to take SSKI (supersaturated potassium iodide) Three Drops per day before each meal under the tongue for 2-3 days prior to the MIBG injection. The SSKI is used to block your thyroid from receiving any of the radioactive pharmaceutical. **Please let the technologist know if there is any possibility that you may be pregnant.**

Your DATSCAN:

When you are brought to the Nuclear Medicine department, a technologist will verify the orders and patient identification. A technologist will ask a series of questions and explain the procedure. An IV will be started and you will receive an injection of radioactive I-123 MIBG through the IV. Images will be taken at 24, and 48hrs post injection. SPECT or 3D reconstruction of the area of the adrenal gland region will be taken at 24hrs. This scan is only used in the diagnosis of pheochromocytoma on the adrenal glands.

Recovery/Home:

There are no restrictions after the exam. Continue normal activity. The radiologist will interpret the exam and send the results to your physician's office.

Patient Information



Northeast Georgia Health System • Imaging Services • www.nghs.com/Imaging

Imaging Center Gainesville
770-219-8035

Imaging Center Braselton
770-848-6150

NGMC Main Campus
770-219-1300