

Renal Scan With Captopril

Patient Information

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 this exam, the patient should be off any ACE inhibitors (Enalapril, Ramipril, Quinapril, Perindopril, Lisinopril, Benazepril, Fosinopril, Captopril etc.) for twenty-four to forty-eight hours. There are no restrictions on eating prior to the injection. Drink extra water, about 32 ounces or four cups, prior to coming in for the scan. **Please let the technologist know if there is any possibility that you may be pregnant.**

Your Renal Scan With Captopril:

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. The nurse will start the infusion of Vasotec through the IV that will last about 5 minutes. A blood pressure reading will be taken every 5 minutes for about twenty minutes. Then the technologist will inject the radioactive pharmaceutical and begin imaging immediately. The injection has a small amount of radioactive material that allows images of the kidneys to be taken. The injection has no known side effects. The images will take about 30 minutes. The camera does not release any radiation and is nearly silent while taking the pictures.

Recovery/Home:

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



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