

Nuclear Medicine

Welcome

Thank you for choosing Augusta Health for your Nuclear Imaging needs.

What should I expect?

After you have registered, you will be greeted by a Nuclear Medicine Technologist who will escort you to the preparation and imaging area. The Technologist will explain the exam procedure, the estimated duration of your test, and begin the test. Depending on the type of exam, the Nuclear Scan can take 30 minutes and up to 4 hours to complete.

At any point during your exam you have questions, please let the Nuclear Medicine Technologist conducting your exam know. They will be glad to assist you.

What is Nuclear Medicine?

Nuclear imaging studies are used for virtually every major organ system in the body and include scans for oncology, neurology, and cardiology. In nuclear medicine, a radiotracer is introduced into the body and is then detected by a camera or scanner. **A Radiotracer** is a very small amount of radioactive material that produces a signal that can be detected by a gamma camera, SPECT scanner, or PET scanner. The tracer may be administered by IV injection or orally depending on the type of test your provider has ordered. Nuclear medicine provides doctors with information about both structure and function.

Did You Know?

Nuclear medicine imaging procedures are noninvasive and safe. The amount of radiation from a radiotracer is extremely small and therefore your radiation exposure is small. The amount of radiation in typical nuclear imaging is comparable with that received during an x-ray, which is within safe limits.

Our goal today is to ensure your privacy while being sensitive to your needs and comfort during your visit. If there is anything we can do to help make you more comfortable during your visit to Augusta Health, please let us know.

Wait Time

Once your exam is completed, a Radiologist will review the images and send a written report to your Physician.

You may receive a patient satisfaction survey from Press Ganey to rate our performance today at Augusta Health. We would appreciate it if you could take a few moments to let us know how well we are doing. Thank you for choosing Augusta Health.

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