

Scan for Osteomyelitis or Cellulitis

(2nd version Aug.1, 2020)

Purposes of this study:

1. Based on a clinical evaluation, your doctor may recommend a nuclear medicine scan for osteomyelitis or cellulitis to confirm suspected osteomyelitis (bone infection) or cellulitis (soft tissue infection).

Procedure of this study:

1. No fasting or any other preparation is required prior to the scan.
2. The images will be acquired on the day after the first injection and at least one day after the second injection.
3. The first image is bone scan. The first scanning is done immediately after the first injection. The scan usually takes about 10 minutes. Then our medical staff will schedule a return appointment at least 2 hours later. While you are waiting, you could leave the Department of Nuclear Medicine. At the time of your scheduled scan, please wait momentarily in front of the scanning room. The scan usually takes 20 to 50 minutes based on individual condition.
4. Gallium-67 agent will be injected after the first scanning. Our medical staff will schedule a return appointment at least one day apart. While you are waiting, you could leave the Department of Nuclear Medicine and go home. At the time of your scheduled scan, please wait momentarily in front of the scanning room. The scan usually takes 30 to 60 minutes.

Other notices:

1. If you have any possibility of pregnancy, please tell us in advance. Pregnancy is a relative contraindication to this test.
2. Drinking plenty of fluids after the injection helps to achieve a high quality picture.
3. Remove jewelry and any metal objects that might interfere with the images.
4. Please keep still during scanning in order to achieve a high quality picture.
5. Please avoid contact with babies and pregnant women the day you receive the low dose radioactive isotope injection. No obvious side effects will occur when in touch with babies and pregnant women. Please do not worry. This test is very safe. No severe side effect has been reported. Allergy could happen but very rare.
6. Sometimes the scan may be repeated over several days. In this case, you won't need additional gallium injections.
7. Patients who are currently breast-feeding their children should stop at least three weeks after injection because gallium-67 may be secreted through breast milk.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any question.

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