

Your appointment:

Date:

Time:

Location:

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Please see our website or the back of this form for more branch details.

Duration of Examination:

This examination is a five day procedure. Scanning on each day is generally done in the morning and takes approximately 20 minutes.

Please bring with you:

- Your request form
- All previous relevant imaging
- Medicare and any Healthcare cards

Payment on the day of the examination is requested.

For more information on this procedure please call one of our branches.

For more information regarding Benson Radiology please visit:
www.bensonradiology.com.au

Nuclear Medicine Colonic Transit Study

Patient Information Sheet No. NM 6

What is a Colonic Transit Study?

A Nuclear Medicine Colonic Transit Study is used to assist in determining the rate of activity of the large bowel when assessing patients suffering from constipation.

Preparation needed prior to the examination:

- You are required to fast for at least 8 hours prior to your appointment, having nothing to eat or drink after midnight.
- You will need to **cease laxatives three days prior** to the test and **not recommence them** until your examination is completed.
- **This is a five day procedure.** Your initial appointment will be on Monday morning. You will need to be available to attend the department each morning of that week for 30 minutes.

What will happen during the examination?

On the morning of your initial appointment you will be given a glass of water containing a very small amount of radiation. There are no side effects from the drink. You may drink and eat normally for the remainder of the test period. You will be asked to return approximately six hours later for your first scan. This will take approximately 10-20 minutes.

You will then be given a time to return to the department each morning for the next four days. The imaging will be the same every day and will take 10-20 minutes. You will be positioned lying flat on your back on a scanning bed as a special machine called a gamma camera takes images of your abdomen from the front and back. These images detect where the radioactive drink is in your colon each day. As an aid in interpreting your test results, each morning you will be asked if you have had any bowel motions since your last visit.

Are there any risks?

This examination has no associated side effects.

Pregnant and Breast Feeding Patients, and Carers of Infants:

This examination **is not suitable** for pregnant women.

Breastfeeding mothers may undergo the procedure, but will need to **cease breast feeding for 12 hours after** the scan. Breast milk should be expressed and discarded during this period. Breast feeding may resume after the 12 hours.

Carers of infants and young children should avoid prolonged close contact for 12 hours following the scan. Maintaining a distance of one metre from infants and young children is recommended.

After the examination:

Once all your imaging is complete, a nuclear medicine specialist will review and report on your images. This can take up to 90 minutes. For your convenience we can generally deliver the images and report to your doctor by the next working day. Alternatively your doctor may request that you return later to collect the imaging and report.

It is important you understand why and how we will be assisting you. If you have any questions, please call one of our branches or speak to our staff on the day of your visit.

