

## Your appointment:

Date: .....

Time: .....

Location:

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

## Duration of Examination:

The examination process will take approximately one hour and is usually arranged as an afternoon appointment.

## 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](http://www.bensonradiology.com.au)

# Nuclear Medicine Gated Blood Pool Scan

## Patient Information Sheet No. NM 7

## What is a Gated Blood Pool Scan?

A gated blood pool scan is a test performed to examine how effectively your heart works. The scan assesses how much blood is being pumped through your heart with each beat. It also measures how well your heart muscle contracts.

## Preparation needed prior to the examination:

There is no specific preparation for this examination. You may continue your current medications as normal.

## What will happen during the examination?

The test requires a sample of your blood to be 'labelled' with a radioactive tracer. A small cannula is inserted into a vein in your arm. A sample of your blood is collected into a syringe and then mixed with the radioactive tracer. This 'labelled' sample is then reinjected into your arm via the same cannula. The tracer allows your blood to be visualised as it passes through your heart. An ECG heart monitor is attached to your chest via cables to enable the pictures to be taken in accordance with your heart beat. Images are taken by a special machine called a gamma camera positioned above your chest. This will take 10-30 minutes, depending on how many pictures are required. The images are then processed by the technologist.

## 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:

The 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.