Gastric emptying study

PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET NM18

Your appointment:

Date: .....

Time: .....

Location: .....

Please see our website for more clinic details.

Duration of examination

This examination takes approximately 4 hours.

Please bring with you:

- Your request form
- Medicare and any
- Healthcare cards

Payment on the day of the examination is requested.

For more information regarding Benson Radiology please visit:

bensonradiology.com.au

What is a gastric emptying study?

This scan is designed to investigate the movements of solids from your stomach to your bowel.

Patient preparation

You will be required to fast from food for eight hours prior to scan.

Please advise the department if you take any gastrointestinal or reflux medications, as you will be required to cease these prior to your scan.

If you take insulin, ensure you bring it with you. Staff will instruct you when you are able to take it.

If you are allergic to eggs, please advise staff when booking your appointment so that an alternative meal may be provided.

What will happen during the examination?

We will be looking at how solids move from your stomach into your small bowel. The technologist will explain the procedure to you and then prepare a meal for the test. The meal consists of scrambled eggs with a small amount of radioactive tracer added. This will enable us to see how food moves through your stomach.

There are no side effects associated with the eggs and the radioactive tracer will not make the meal taste any different.

Once you have consumed the eggs you will be positioned lying on your back under the gamma camera. Images are taken over a period of 4 hours. These images detect the radioactive eggs in your stomach and allow us to assess how long it takes to digest a meal.

Are there any risks?

This examination has no associated side effects.

Pregnant, breast-feeding patients and carers of infants

This examination is not suitable for pregnant women.

After the examination

The images will be reviewed and reported by our nuclear medicine specialist. These will then be sent to your referring clinician.

For details on reporting timeframes, please speak with our reception staff.

It is important that you follow up the results of your examination with your referring clinician.

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

Benson radiology

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