

PATIENT INFORMATION

Patient's Name: _____

You have an appointment in the Nuclear Medicine Department on:

Date: _____ **Time:** _____

Please arrive 10 minutes early. This gives you time to check in. Please bring with you photo identification and your BC CareCard (personal health number).

Please do not bring your children with you unless you bring someone to care for them while you are having the test.

If you are not able to keep your appointment, please call **604-806-8008** as soon as possible. Please give us at least 24 hours notice so we can use your time for someone else. When you call, we will give you another date and time for your test.

Things you need to know

Why am I having this test?

Your doctor wants to check how well your body absorbs bile salts in your small bowel. If you do not absorb them normally, it can cause cramping and loose bowel movements (diarrhea).

What do I need to do before the test?

★ Are you allergic to latex? Pregnant? Breastfeeding? Please tell us★

You do not need to do anything special to prepare for this test. You may eat and drink as usual and take your medicines.

What happens during the test?

This test occurs on two separate days.

On the first day:

- We ask you to swallow a radioactive pill with a drink of water. This pill has in it a man-made bile salt linked with a small amount of radioactive material called a 'tracer' (called SeHCAT).
- Now we need to wait for the tracer to work its way through your body. You may wait in our waiting room or leave the department during this time.
- **You must return within 3-4 hours for the second part.** We tell you what time to be back in the department.
- At this time, we take pictures or images that measure the amount of tracer absorbed.

Seven (7) days later:

- We take more images to measure how much of the tracer is still in your body.



How you want to be treated.

How long will the test take?

Plan on being here for about 5 hours the first day and about 30 minutes the second day.

What can I expect after my test?

There are no side effects to this test. The amount of radiation contained in the radioactive pill is less than a chest x-ray.

We send your test results to your doctor within 5 working days after the test is completed. If your doctor does not have your results within two weeks, please ask your doctor to contact us.