

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 a growth or lump on your liver. This test checks to see whether or not it is a mass or abnormal collection of blood vessels called a hemangioma. You may also hear it referred to as a tumour but it is not cancer.

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.

Plan on being here for about a total of 5 hours. Bring any medicines you may need during this time.

What happens during the test?

First, we use a needle and syringe to take 10ml (2 tsp) of blood from a vein in one of your hands or arms. In our laboratory, we mix your blood sample with a radioactive material called a 'tracer'. The tracer attaches itself to your red blood cells. This takes us about 30 minutes.

Next, we take your blood sample with tracer and inject it into your bloodstream using again a vein in one of your hands or arms. As this blood flows into and through your liver, we take pictures or images of your liver from different angles. This takes another 45 minutes.

We then give you a break for 2 hours. You may leave the department during this time if you wish but you must return at the time we give you.

When you return, we do another set of images of your liver. This takes about 45-60 minutes.



How you want to be treated.

What can I expect after my test?

There are no side effects.

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.

If you are planning to travel within one month of this test, please tell the Nuclear Medicine receptionist. We will give you a letter that says you have been given a small amount of radioactivity for this test.