

Myocardial Perfusion Scan [Heart Scan]

A Myocardial Perfusion Scan (Heart Scan) is a test that is performed to check the flow of blood to your heart muscle and is used to evaluate coronary artery disease. The test is commonly performed in patients with suspected angina.

The Procedure

A Myocardial Perfusion Scan determines whether your heart is receiving enough blood from your coronary arteries. The scan evaluates the blood flow to the heart at both rest and stress and also helps determine the overall function of the heart.

Preparation

You will need to fast – no food or drink except water for 6 hours prior to the test.

Please do not eat or drink any products containing caffeine for 24 hours before the test.

Comfortable shoes and clothing should be worn so the exercise test can be carried out easily and safely.

Please check with your referring doctor with regard to omitting any of your medications on the day of the test and please let us know if you have diabetes, glaucoma, heart disease, or any other serious illness.

If you are or could be pregnant or you are breast feeding please advise our staff. Please bring a list of all medications and supplements you take and inform our staff of any medication allergies or sensitivity.

“You will be monitored by our Physician and Registered Nurse.”

When you come for the test

You will be given an injection of Sestamibi by a qualified Nuclear Medicine technologist. There are no side effects from this injection.

You will have to wait approximately 30 minutes and then you will be asked to lie down on the scanning bed and ‘rest’ images of your heart will be taken. This will take approximately 15 minutes.

After the images have been taken a registered nurse will ask you a few questions about your medical history and medications.

You will then be asked to lie on a bed and you will be connected to an ECG monitor.

Depending on your referral and medical history you will either walk on a treadmill or a drug called Persantin will be given intravenously to ‘exercise’ your heart.

You will be monitored by our Physician and Registered Nurse. It is extremely important that you keep the doctor or nurse informed of how you are feeling, especially if you experience any chest discomfort or shortness of breath during the exercise test.

The Nuclear Medicine physician will give you another injection of Sestamibi through the needle in your arm approximately one minute before you stop exercising.

You will be asked to go and have something to eat and drink and be given a time to come back for the last set of images.

The whole procedure can take anywhere from 3-5 hours.

Female Patients

Breast feeding mothers should not resume breast feeding for 24 hours post injection. If you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant, please contact your referring doctor, as this scan may not be able to be performed.



Appointment

Please phone or SMS our friendly booking service on **1300 788 508** or request an appointment online www.canberraimaging.com.au

What to bring

Please bring the following items with you to your appointment:

- Your referral
- Any relevant films
- Medicare card
- Pension / Health Care card

Your results

Your doctor will receive fast and convenient electronic access to your reports and images. Canberra Imaging Group strongly advise that you return to your referring doctor in order for your doctor to discuss your results with you.