

UNITED HOSPITAL CENTER PATIENT EDUCATION

NUCLEAR GASTRO-INTESTINAL BLEEDING



Your physician has referred you to the Diagnostic Imaging Department at United Hospital Center for a Gastrointestinal Bleeding Scan.

The indications for this exam are unexplained gastrointestinal bleeding following endoscopic evaluation of the upper and lower GI tract. You should also be actively bleeding for this test to be as accurate as possible.

Upon arrival in the department an IV will be placed in your arm and remain in place until the initial phase of the exam is complete. A small amount of your blood will be withdrawn through this IV and will be tagged with a small amount of radioactive material. This tagging procedure takes approximately thirty (30) minutes, at which time you will be positioned lying on your back under the nuclear camera.

Your tagged radioactive blood will be injected through the existing IV and imaging will begin. The IV will be taken out of your arm at this time. After the images have been acquired, they will be shown to the Radiologist, who will determine whether your exam is complete or if you will have to return for delayed images.

LENGTH: Approximately 1 hour, if delay images are not necessary.

If you are pregnant, or think you might be, tell your doctor and the technologist **BEFORE** your exam.

DISCLAIMER: The content contained in this patient education is presented solely with the intent of providing public service information on health and health-related issues. This information is neither intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice. Always consult your physician or other qualified health provider prior to utilizing any of the information presented in this patient education. UHC makes no warranty, representation or guaranty as to the content, accuracy, timeliness or completeness of the information presented in this patient education or that the information may be relied upon for any reason.

Revised: October 2009