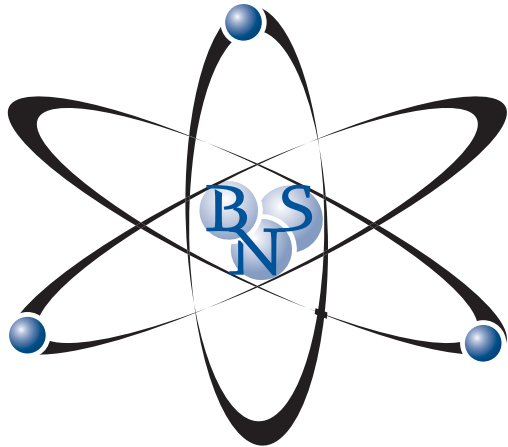


**Exam will take place at:**

**Location: Brampton Nuclear Services  
40 Finchgate Blvd  
Suite 101  
Brampton, ON**

**Phone: 905-791-3458**

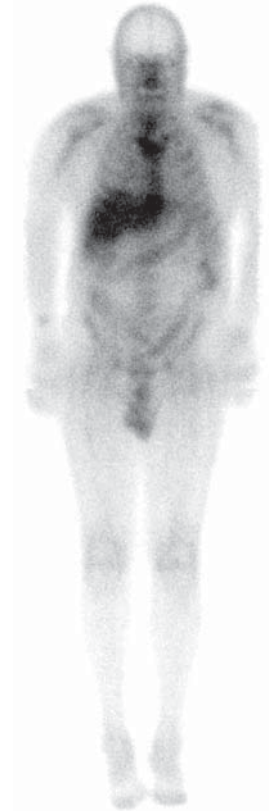
If you require further information about your test, or wish to change your appointment, please call the phone number listed.



Brampton Nuclear Services  
40 Finchgate Blvd. Suite 101  
Brampton, Ontario L6T 3J1  
905-791-3458

**GALLIUM SCAN**

*A PATIENT'S GUIDE*



This pamphlet is not a substitute for an informed discussion between you and your physician. Consult your physician if you want more information on the procedures and medication described in this pamphlet.

**Appointment Date:**

**Appointment Time:**

## Definition and why this test is performed

This is a type of nuclear scan involving radioactive gallium, which helps determine whether a patient has inflammation, infection or certain types of tumours present. This test is also performed for sarcoidosis.

## How the test is performed

Gallium is injected into a vein. Imaging is usually done at 12 – 48 hours for suspect infection or inflammation. For suspect tumour, imaging can be done up to 72 hours or even up to one week later.

You lie on a movable table that will be positioned under the scanner (gamma camera). The camera detects the gamma rays emitted by the gallium.

The information is then transmitted to a computer, which displays the image on the screen. The technician can move the scanner to get a clearer picture.

During the scan, it is important to remain still to get a clear image. The technologist can assist in making you comfortable before the scan begins. Each imaging will take about 30-60 minutes.

## How to prepare for the test

Several hours to 1 day before the scan, the injection of gallium will be administered to you. Just before the scan, remove jewelry, dentures, or other metal objects that can affect the scan.

For infants and children:

The preparation you can provide for this test depends on your child's age and previous experiences. For specific information regarding how you can prepare your child, see the following topics:

- infant test or procedure preparation (birth to 1 year)
- toddler test or procedure preparation (1 to 3 years)
- preschooler test or procedure preparation (3 to 6 years)
- schoolage test or procedure preparation (6 to 12 years)
- adolescent test or procedure preparation (12 to 18 years)

## How the test will feel

- The injection of gallium may sting, and the puncture site may hurt when touched for several hours or days. The scan is painless; however, you must remain still. Lying still may cause discomfort for some patients.

## What are the risks

There is some risk to children or fetuses. A pregnant or nursing woman may pass on radiation, so special precautions will be made for patients in those conditions who need the scan.

For nonpregnant or nonnursing women, and for men, there is very little risk from the radiation in gallium, because the amount is very small. There are increased risks with numerous exposures to radiation (such as X-rays, and scans), which you should discuss with the health care provider who recommends the test.