

Gastric Emptying

A Gastric Emptying exam looks at how fast the food empties from your stomach into your intestines or bowel.

Patient Preparation

Nothing to eat or drink 4-6 hours before the exam.

Procedure

You will be asked to consume a meal mixed with medication. A normal study is terminated after 90 minutes. Abnormal studies are continued up to four hours after the meal is consumed.

The amount of radiation needed for the exam is minimal and the body eliminates the tracer material typically within twenty-four hours.

Tell the technologist if you have any allergies and if you are undergoing radiation therapy because these factors may require adjustments in how the examination is performed. Also, let the technologist know if you are pregnant or breastfeeding as nuclear medicine tests are usually not recommended for pregnant women.