

The Heart House

Gated Blood Pool (Muga Scan)

Your doctor has requested that a gated-blood pool (MUGA) scan be performed on you. The purpose of this test is to measure LV function at rest, evaluate ventricular wall motion, ejection fraction and other systolic and diastolic functions. This is a safe and painless procedure that requires two injections that will allow imaging of your heart to determine its efficiency in pumping blood.

There is no special patient preparation or dietary restrictions for this exam. The two injections, given 20 minutes apart, will make your red blood cells radioactive for a few hours, long enough for a special camera and computer to measure your heart's efficiency.

You will have no adverse effects from either injection and the radiation exposure is minimal.

The entire procedure will take about an hour; each injection must circulate for 15-20 minutes; the scan will take approximately 30 minutes. The Nuclear Medicine Technologist will process the study after you leave the lab and the cardiologist will interpret them; your referring physician should have the results in a few days.