

Patient Instruction Diagnostic Center Nuclear Medicine

Lymph node SPECT and low-dose CT

This examination is used to locate sentinel lymph nodes. The examination does not provide information on the spread of the disease. Any sentinel lymph nodes found in this study will be resected for tissue sampling during your surgery.

Please reserve approximately 1 hour for your visit.

If you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant, call the number on the arrival instructions. This exam is generally not carried out on pregnant women.

Before the examination

Eat, drink, and take your medication as usual on the day of the examination.

Examination

A small amount of radioactive tracer will be administered subcutaneously near the tumor. The tracer will seek out the sentinel lymph nodes via the lymphatic system.

If the tumor was already removed, the tracer will be injected on both sides of the removal scar.

Imaging begins immediately after the injection. The examination will take an hour. The places of the sentinel nodes may be drawn on your skin with a marker pen. Do not wash these away.

You will be asked to lie on your back for the scans. Scanning is painless.

After the examination

If you breastfeed, you must stop breastfeeding for 4 hours after the radioactive tracer is administered. The milk expressed during this period must be poured down the drain.

After receiving the radioactive tracer, do not hold a child or remain in prolonged close contact with children for the remainder of the day.

Other things to note

Please take your health insurance card (Kela card) or identity card with you.

You will receive the results of the examination from the doctor who treats you. If you do not know how to find out the results, please contact the outpatient clinic or ward that referred you to this examination.

You will not be charged for the examination separately.

Cancel the appointment if you cannot come. If you do not cancel, you will be charged a fine.



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