



Exam Duration: Approximately 2 hours **IV Required?** Yes

Exam Preparation: Nothing to eat or drink 4 hours prior to appointment
No narcotic pain medications 12 hours prior to appointment
Other nuclear exams performed within 2-3 days may interfere
Imaging studies using oral barium performed within 2-3 days may interfere

The HIDA Scan is a nuclear medicine exam used to evaluate the function of the Hepatobiliary system. This organ system—including the liver, gallbladder, and bile ducts—is responsible for the production and transit of bile into the intestines. Bile is a substance produced by the liver that aids in digestion, helping the body break down fat content in food.

Exam Procedure: Upon your arrival, a nuclear medicine technologist will explain the exam in detail and ask questions about your relevant medical history. An IV will be started in your arm and you will be injected with a radioactive tracer that will first collect in your liver and then in your gallbladder. You will be positioned on an imaging table with a camera over your abdomen, and images will be acquired for approximately 45 minutes to an hour.

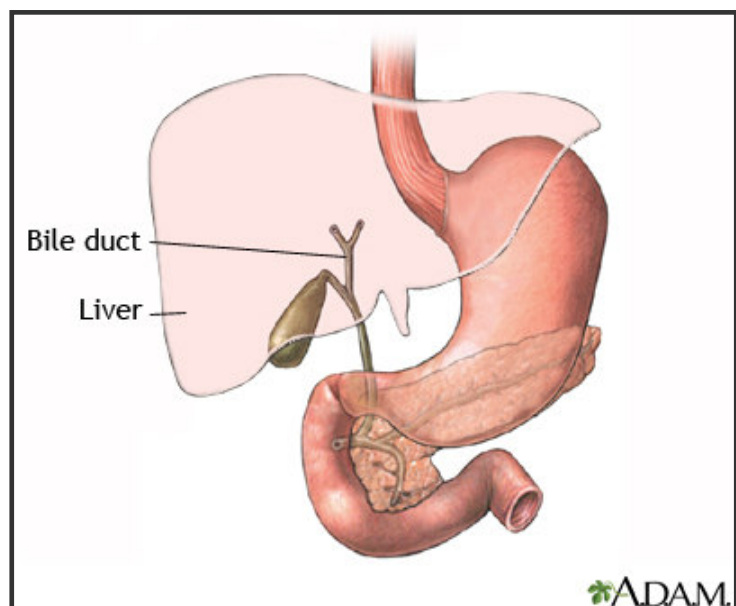
In most cases, the functional level of the gallbladder is the primary reason to do a HIDA Scan. Once the gallbladder has filled with the radiotracer, the technologist will administer a second drug: a hormone that will stimulate contraction of your gallbladder. This hormone may cause short-lived side effects including abdominal cramping, pain, and nausea. Severe abdominal pain or nausea is uncommon, and the side effects tend to subside a few minutes after the injection is complete. Imaging during this portion of the exam lasts for 30 minutes.

For certain patients, gallbladder function is not the focus of the exam; these patients will not receive the hormone injection described above. Those patients who have had their gallbladder removed or who have known gallstones would be included in this category.

Once the exam is complete, the technologist will remove the IV from your arm and you will be free to go. There are no lasting side effects to be concerned about after a HIDA Scan.

Notes: Patients are encouraged to bring an MP3 player and headphones if desired, as listening to music will not interfere with the exam.

Wear comfortable clothing to your appointment. As the exam requires an IV, it is best to wear a shirt that allows easy access to the arms. You will not be required to change into a gown for this exam.



ADAM.

Please feel free to contact the Nuclear Medicine department with any questions at (405) 307-1655.