

Is there a radiation risk?

The amount of radioactivity used in these studies is very very small. Less than an x-ray procedure, so there are no related side effects or risks.

Assessment of possible health affects has shown that the benefits from medical radiation exposure far outweigh any risks. All x-ray and scintigraphy procedures are only performed when there will be a net benefit to the patient and there is no reasonable alternative.

If you are pregnant, suspect you may be, or are a nursing mother, discuss this with your doctor before the scan.

Scan Results

At NZMI the scan is usually reported later that same day and the referring doctor will have the results the following day

After the scan:

There are no restrictions after this scan and no side effects, you are able to drive and proceed as normal.

Other NZMI information brochures available:

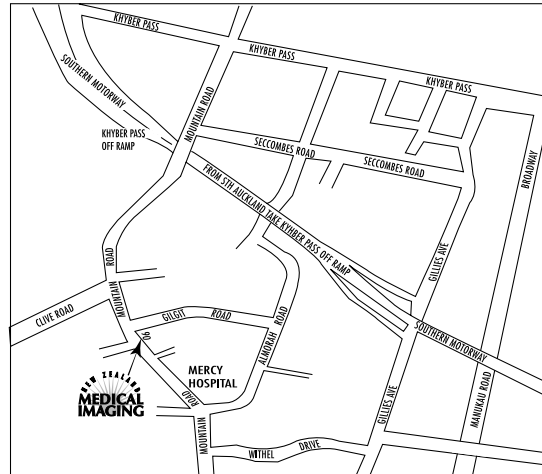
- Bone Scanning
- Breast Scanning
- Heart / Myocardial scanning
- Kidney Scanning
- Lymph Node Scanning

Scan appointment.

If you are having a **Gastric Emptying** scan you must be fasting for four hours before the start of this scan.

Date: _____

Times: _____



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(462446)**



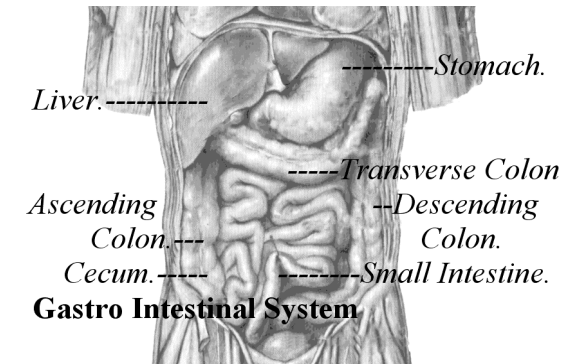
**SCINTIGRAPHY
GASTRIC EMPTYING
& COLONIC TRANSIT**

Gastric Emptying Scan:

A Scintigraphy, or Nuclear Medicine gastric emptying study provides a simple noninvasive means of quantitating gastric (stomach) emptying rate and transit of food along the small intestine.

Colonic Transit Scan:

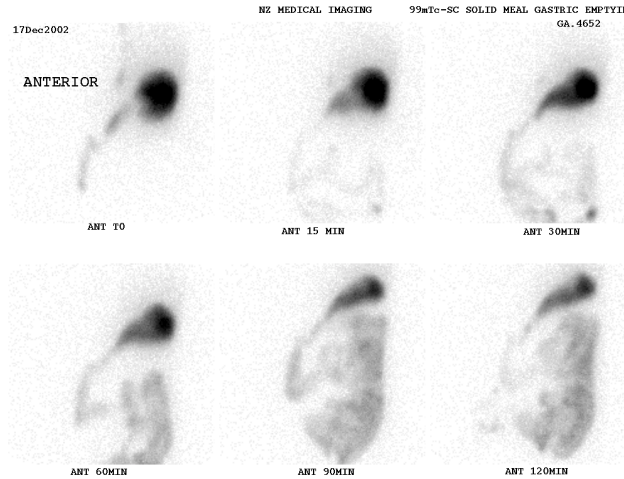
A Scintigraphy Colonic Transit scan is a simple and easy way to follow the transit of food along the small intestine and colon (large intestine).



Gastric Emptying Scan Procedure:

You are required to eat a small meal of about 4 pikelets at the start of the test and an image is acquired under the Gamma Camera every half hour for 2 hours.

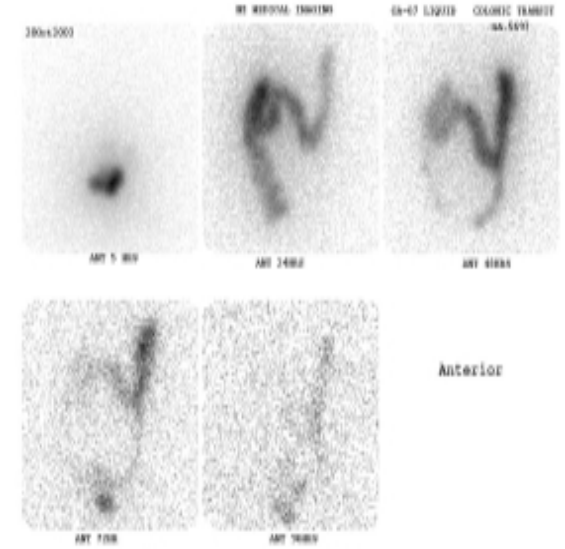
These pikelets are a normal pikelet mix but with the addition of a very small amount of a radioactive isotope (99mTc-S Colloid). This in no way affects the taste of the pikelets. The addition of the radioisotope allows the technologist to observe the stomach contents under the scanner and record the gastric emptying rate. If required transit along the small intestine can also be recorded



Gastric Emptying Scintigraphy Images showing stomach emptying into small intestine.

Colonic Transit Scan Procedure:

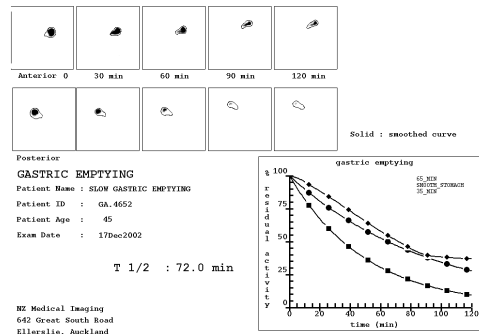
For this procedure you are required to drink a glass of water containing a very small amount of the radioactive isotope Ga67 Gallium Citrate. This does not affect the taste or colour of the water. Scan images are acquired at various intervals throughout the day and a single 5min image is acquired at a set time for the next 4 days. This allows for the recording of the isotopes transit along the length of the colon.



Ga67-Colonic transit scintigraphy images. One image taken each day over 5 days.

Patient Preparation:

For a Gastric Emptying study you must have nothing to eat for 4 hours before the start of the scan.



Graphed data of stomach emptying and calculation of gastric emptying rate (T1/2).