

GALLIUM SCAN

PATIENT PREPARATION:

No special preparation required.

PROCEDURE

A gallium scan usually requires three visits to the Nuclear Medicine Department. On the first day, the patient will receive an injection into a vein in their arm. This visit should take about fifteen minutes and the injection will cause no more discomfort than having blood drawn.

Next, they will be scheduled to return for imaging between one and four days later, depending on the clinical indication. Imaging may involve several close-up views, whole body scanning, or tomography, with the patient usually lying still on an imaging table.