

## **HEPATOBILIARY IMAGING**

### **PATIENT PREPARATION:**

The patient must have nothing to eat or drink for at least 4 hours prior to the test. Recent meals, as well as prolonged fasting (>24 hours) may result in false-positive results. Opiate medications (such as morphine, Demerol, and codeine) may also result in false-positive results. Avoid the presence of barium in the abdomen.

### **PROCEDURE**

After the radioactive tracer injection (into a vein in the arm), the patient lies on their back on the imaging table and continuous images of the abdominal area are taken for one hour. Additional images may be required for up to 4 hours. Hepatobiliary imaging may also include pharmacologic intervention with a drug called cholecystokinin (CCK) to assess gallbladder contractility.