

LUNG SCAN (V/Q)

PATIENT PREPARATION:

None, however, patient cooperation is *essential*. The patient must be able to actively re-breathe into a closed system for approximately 5 minutes. This requirement generally excludes patients on ventilators from receiving this study. Also, the patient must have had a Chest X-Ray within 24 hours prior to the study for comparison.

PROCEDURE

The lung scan has two parts to it: ventilation and perfusion. The ventilation assesses the airflow to the lungs. The patient will be asked to breathe in a radioactive aerosol. Images will then be taken at multiple angles around the chest. The perfusion assesses the blood flow to the lungs. The patient will receive an injection of a radioactive tracer into a vein in their arm, followed by images acquired at multiple angles around the chest.