

## Nuclear Medicine – Lymphoscintigraphy



To Schedule: (319) 861-7778

Questions about your procedure: (319) 398-6050

701 10th Street SE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403-1292  
319 398-6011

### What is a Nuclear Medicine?

Nuclear medicine uses radioactive materials to help diagnose and treat a wide variety of diseases and disorders. Nuclear medicine provides unique information about the human body and its function. Nuclear medicine helps providers diagnose diseases to make treatment more effective. It is one of the best diagnostic tests for the early detection of certain types of heart disease, thyroid disease, tumors, bone changes, etc.

Lymphoscintigraphy is a medical term used to describe the “mapping” of lymph nodes in your body either by imaging or by other detection instruments.

### Preparation:

This is performed in conjunction with surgery. Please follow the surgery preparation and instructions.

### Procedure:

#### Patients with diagnosed breast cancer:

You will be asked to check into the Mercy Pre-Op Surgery department, after which you will be taken to a Radiologist who will inject a radioactive material that will highlight your lymph nodes. You will then return to pre-op to await surgery.

#### Patients with diagnosed melanoma:

You will be asked to check into the Mercy Pre-Op Surgery department, after which you will be taken to a Radiologist who will inject a radioactive material that will highlight areas of interest after which you will be placed on a bed for imaging. Imaging will take between 30 and 90 minutes. The Radiologist will place location marks on your skin. This identifies the site for the surgeon. You will then return to pre-op to await surgery.

### PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:

**A PHOTO ID TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY**

**A LIST OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS YOU ARE TAKING**

### Parking:

Park in the Mercy Medical Center 10<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE. Proceed to **Ground (G)** level and follow the signs to “Radiology (X-Ray),” also located on **Ground (G)** level.

### Procedure Results:

A radiologist will review the images shortly after the exam is completed. A written report will be sent to the provider who ordered your exam. Your provider will discuss the results with you. Results will typically be available for your provider within two business days of the exam. Results will also be sent to your MyChart account.