

## Nuclear Medicine – GI Bleed

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.

A GI Bleeding scan is used to evaluate the possibility of an active bleed site within your gastrointestinal tract.

### Preparation:

There is no special preparation for this exam.

### Procedure:

Upon arrival, an intravenous (IV) line access will be placed. A small amount of blood (2-4 milliliters) will be taken and combined with a radioactive material, called “tracer”. This process takes 25-30 minutes. Your blood will then be injected back into the IV. Images will continue until the bleeding site has been imaged or until the test is complete. The imaging takes at least 1 hour. The Radiologist will look at the images that have been acquired and determine if further imaging is necessary.

### 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.