



## Gallbladder Nuclear Scan

### **CT Department**

St. James Mercy Hospital, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
411 Canisteo Street  
Hornell NY, 14843  
**607-324-8249**

To schedule an appointment: 607-324-8279

To fax to scheduling: 607-324-8221

### **What is Gallbladder Nuclear scan?**

This is an x-ray test to determine how well your gallbladder works.

### **How do I prepare for the test?**

- **Do not eat any solid food or drink fluids for four (4) hours prior to your CT scan.**
- **Take your regular medications** at your usual time, as long as it is before the 4 hours when you may not eat or drink. If you are a diabetic patient and take the medication Glucophage (metformin), you may not take this medication for 48 hours after the injection of IV contrast. The CT technician will provide instructions on this.
- Please arrive 15 minutes before your appointment to complete the registration process.
- **Please bring a driver with you, as you may be receiving Morphine during your test.**

### **What should I wear on the day of the test?**

You will wear your street clothes during the exam.

### **What happens during the scan?**

You will be brought into our nuclear medicine room and asked questions about your symptoms. Then we then put in a small IV and inject a medication that highlights your intestinal tract. After the medication reaches a certain point in your body, you will then be given a gallbladder stimulant that may mimic your attacks.

During that time we need to know if you are experiencing any nausea or pain. These symptoms do not last long but it is very important that you tell us how you feel. There is a chance (if you have gallstones) that you will not receive the gallbladder stimulant. In addition, if your discomfort is high you may receive Morphine, and will need to have someone drive you home. For your safety, we ask all patients doing this test to bring a driver in the event you receive Morphine.

**How should I feel during the test?**

You may experience some discomfort or nausea during the test when we inject the gallbladder simulant.

**How long does the test take?**

The test should take approximately 1 – 1 ½ hours. This includes observation by a nurse to ensure that you are comfortable to go home.

**How do I get my test results?**

The doctor who ordered the test will get the report, and he or she will contact you with the results.