

## NOTES:

## Diagnostic Imaging Services at Saint Anne's Hospital

For our patients and their physicians, Saint Anne's Diagnostic Imaging Services combines the expertise of board-certified radiologists with the area's most comprehensive range of advanced imaging technology. Our fully digitized network of imaging technology assures the highest imaging quality with less time and inconvenience for patients, as well as rapid access to the results for physicians. Images can be viewed and sent via computer to multiple specialists within the hospital, across town to a physician's office or to other hospitals and specialists.

Our dedicated team of physicians and technologists is focused on providing the highest quality imaging and patient comfort. This extends to working with our youngest patients as well as others who require special considerations and appointment scheduling for imaging.

We offer a spectrum of services, including:

- Computerized Tomography (CT) scanning
- Digital X-ray
- Digital Mammography provided in our dedicated Robert F. Stoico/FIRSTFED Center for Breast Care
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Nuclear Medicine with CT capability
- PET/CT imaging
- Ultrasound

### INTERPRETER SERVICES AVAILABLE

#### **Portuguese - Português**

Fala Português? Vamos oferecer-lhe um intérprete gratuito.

#### **Spanish - Español**

¿Habla español? Le proporcionaremos un intérprete sin costo alguno para usted.

## Digital Imaging: A High-Tech Change for Better Care

Digital imaging creates a "filmless" environment that permits rapid viewing of pictures and secure transmission to physicians whether they are in the hospital, their nearby practice or a specialist located miles away. Digital images are high quality, environmentally friendly and easier to access via PACS (Picture Archiving Communication System).

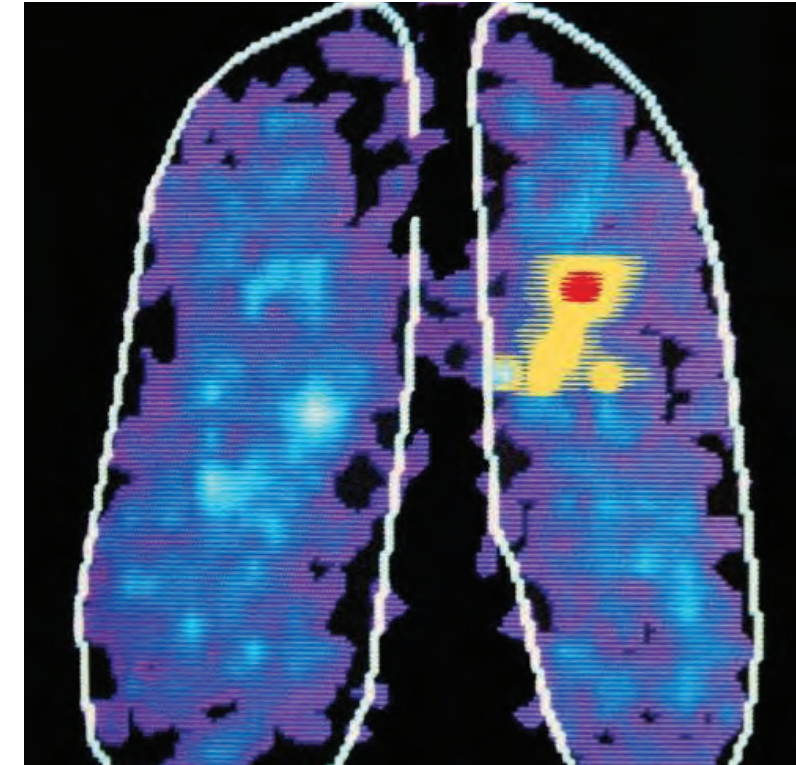
The PACS system is part of a patient's secure and confidential electronic medical record, which provides for improved care through integration of various tests and reports all in one easily-retrievable location.

#### **Care Agreement:**

You have the right to help plan your care. To help with this plan, you must learn about your health condition and how it may be treated. You can then discuss treatment options with your caregivers. Work with them to decide what care may be used to treat you. You always have the right to refuse treatment.

## Saint Anne's Hospital

### DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING SERVICES



# Lung Scan

## PATIENT INFORMATION



Accredited by the American College of Radiology

#### **Call location for hours and directions**

##### **Locations:**

#### **Complete Diagnostic Imaging Services**

Saint Anne's Hospital  
Ground Floor, 795 Middle Street, Fall River  
508-674-5600 ext. 2300 • Fax 508-235-5636  
Free valet parking

#### **Saint Anne's Hospital**

795 Middle Street, Fall River, MA 02721  
Main Number and Directions 508-674-5600

[SaintAnnesHospital.org](http://SaintAnnesHospital.org)



## Understanding Your Exam

### What is a Lung Scan?

A lung scan is a test that is most commonly used to detect a blood clot in the lungs. There may be 2 parts to a nuclear medicine lung scan.

- **Perfusion Scan.** A radioactive tracer is injected into a vein in your arm. The pictures will show the blood flow into your lungs. Areas not receiving enough blood show up as cold spots.
- **Ventilation Scan.** You will breathe in a radioactive tracer gas. In a normal test, the blood flow on the perfusion scan matches the air flow on the ventilation scan.

### Why do I need a Lung Scan?

It is helpful in the early detection of pulmonary emboli (p.e.-blood clot in your lungs) and in the evaluation of your pulmonary circulation in such conditions as bronchitis, asthma, emphysema, inflammatory disease, lung malignancies and preoperative pulmonary status.

### Are there times a person should not have a Lung Scan?

Tell your caregiver before the test if you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant or breast feeding. You will be asked to stop breast feeding for a short period of time so that your baby will not receive any of the radioactive tracer from your breast milk.

## What Should You Know

### What should I do to get ready?

Please bring a list of your prescription medications with you on the day of the test. You may eat and drink fluids. Take your medications as ordered by your doctor.

### How is a lung scan performed?

A chest x-ray is usually done just prior to your lung scan. A chest x-ray done within the previous 24 hours is adequate.

- **Perfusion Scan.** The nuclear medicine technologist will give you a radioactive tracer injection in a vein in your hand or arm while you are lying down on your back. The scan will begin immediately. The gamma camera does not give off any radiation. Usually 8 images are acquired, taking about 30 minutes.
- **Ventilation Scan.** A mask will be placed over your mouth and nose. You will be asked to breathe in a tracer gas

and hold your breath for just 10 seconds. The gamma camera will take pictures as the gas moves through your lungs as you breath in and out. The ventilation scan takes less than 15 minutes to complete.

### What should I do after the scan?

The amount of radiation that you receive is so small that you are not a risk to people who come in contact with you.

### What are normal and abnormal results?

- **Normal.** The tracers are evenly distributed through your lungs.
- **Low Probability.** The chance of a pulmonary embolism is low.
- **High Probability.** Positive study for pulmonary embolism.

### What are the risks?

Allergic reactions to the radioactive tracers are rare. Occasionally, some soreness or swelling may develop at the injection site.

**Appointment Scheduling: 508-235-5339**

*For our patients and their physicians,  
Saint Anne's Diagnostic Imaging Services  
combines the expertise of board-certified  
radiologists with a comprehensive  
range of advanced imaging technology.*

## Appointment Scheduling

**508-235-5339**

Monday-Friday 8 am - 6 pm

Your physician's office will schedule your Lung Scan. Our Scheduling staff are able to assist with all scheduling needs, as well as provide patients and physician practices exam preparation instructions when applicable.

If you are unable to keep your appointment and need to reschedule or if you wish to cancel your appointment, please contact us as soon as possible. A 24-hour notice would be greatly appreciated.

### Pre-Registration By Phone: 508-235-5674

To expedite your visit, please contact our Patient Assistance Center to pre-register for your exam. If we do not hear from you, a member of our staff will attempt to reach you. Please ensure your physician has your most up to date contact information. During the registration process we can assist you with your co-pay, coinsurance, and deductible.

Once you have pre-registered, you can arrive on the scheduled day and time and go directly to the Diagnostic Imaging Services location.

### The Day Of Your Exam

- Use the Valet Parking services where available, Monday through Friday, and reduce the amount of time you spend looking for parking. It's free, and you can pick up your car at the entrance when you are finished with your appointment. No long walks! Hours vary by location.
- For exams scheduled at the hospital: If you have not pre-registered, please go to Patient Registration, located near the main entrance to the hospital, 30 minutes prior to your scheduled exam appointment to be registered for your exam.
- If you are diabetic, inform staff and take your medications as you would normally.
- We want our patients to be as comfortable as possible while having tests performed. However, we ask that you not bring children with you unless you have an adult to watch and care for them while you are having your procedure.
- Pediatric patients must be accompanied by either a parent or legal guardian in order to receive care.