Gallium Scan

About the test
A gallium scan is a test that looks at your whole body and shows any infection or tumors. This information will help your doctor decide on your medical treatment.

The material used to do the scan, called tracer, contains a very small amount of radioactivity. It will naturally go away on its own.

If you are breastfeeding, pregnant, or think you might be, tell the radiologist or technologist before the scan.

To prepare for the test
You will need to clear your lower bowel or colon the night before the scan appointment. The technologist will give you the bowel prep and instructions for this when you come for your 1st appointment.

During the test
You will have up to 3 appointments for this test.

1st appointment
Your questions will be answered and you will get instructions for your bowel prep. The tracer will be injected through an IV in your arm.

2nd appointment
The scan is done. This is often 24 hours after the injection if your doctor is looking for infection, or 48 hours after if your doctor is looking for tumors. You will lie on a table while a camera-like machine moves above and below you. The scan lasts 2 to 3 hours.

The technologist will let you know if a third appointment is needed and how to prepare for it.

3rd appointment - if needed
• Several days later, a 3rd appointment may be needed to do another scan if more pictures are needed.

A gallium scan is an important test. Please ask your doctor or technologist if you have any questions.
Your test dates and location

Your 1st appointment has been scheduled at _________________ on ________________.
Your 2nd appointment has been scheduled at _________________ on ________________.
Your 3rd appointment has been scheduled at _________________ on ________________.

Your tests are scheduled at:

- **University Hospital, 410 West 10th Avenue, Columbus OH 43210**
  - Doan Hall, 2nd floor, Nuclear Medicine, Room 211
  - Take the Doan Hall elevators to the 2nd floor. Report to Radiology Registration to the right of the elevators.
    - If you need to change your appointment, call Radiology Scheduling at 614-293-4333.
    - If you have a question about your test, please call Nuclear Medicine at 614-293-5774.

- **University Hospital East, 181 Taylor Ave., Columbus OH 43203**
  - You need to stop at Main Registration on the first floor of the tower. This is near the main hospital entrance.
    - If you need to change your appointment, call Scheduling at 614-257-2222.
    - If you have a question about your test, please call Nuclear Medicine at 614-257-3670.

Talk to your doctor or health care team if you have any questions about your care.

For more health information, contact the Library for Health Information at **614-293-3707** or e-mail health-info@osu.edu.