A gastric emptying scan is a test that looks at the rate at which your stomach empties food into your intestines or bowel. Conditions such as ulcers and diabetes can change this rate. For this test, you will eat scrambled eggs made from an egg substitute, like Egg Beaters, and toast with jam that contain a small amount of radioactive material. There are no side effects from this material. This test results in a very low radiation exposure. No injections are needed to do this test.

Tell the radiologist or technologist before the scan if you are:

- Allergic to eggs
- Breastfeeding or pregnant or think you might be pregnant

To prepare for the test

- Discuss the list of medicines you are currently taking with the doctor who ordered this test. Be sure to include all prescription and over the counter medicines, vitamins and herbal products. Your doctor will determine if you need to stop taking any medicines before your test.
- If you are on diabetic medications, please bring them to your appointment.
- Certain medicines can change the results of your test. If you are taking any of these medicines, you should stop taking them for 2 days before this test, or as directed by your doctor:
  - Reglan, also known as metoclopramide
  - Erythromycin
  - Zithromax, also know as azithromycin
  - Valium
  - Zofran, also know as ondansetron
  - Medicines for pain including percocet, darvocet, vicodin, lortab, oxycotin, or roxanol
- If you are a smoker, do not smoke the day of your scan.
- You must not eat or drink anything for 6 hours before your appointment time.
- Bring a list of all of your medicines with you to the test. Be sure to include all prescription and over the counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal products.
During the test

- When you come for your test, you will eat some scrambled eggs made from an egg substitute like Egg Beaters that contain a small amount of radioactivity. You will also be given 2 pieces of toast with jelly and a small cup of water to drink.

- A camera-like machine will take 3 one-minute pictures of your stomach over a 2 hour time period. If requested by your doctor, you will also take a picture 4 hours after your meal. You will be able to leave the area between the pictures, but you cannot eat or drink anything during this 2-4 hour period.

- If you are not able to eat eggs, you will be given a cup of instant oatmeal that contains a small amount of radioactivity. You will be asked to eat this quickly and then lie down for 60 minutes of pictures.

- The information from the test will tell your doctor if there is a problem with food leaving your stomach.

A gastric emptying scan is an important test. Please ask your doctor or technologist if you have any questions.

Your test date and location

Your appointment is scheduled at ____________________ on ____________________.

Your test is scheduled at:

- University Hospital, 410 W. 10th Avenue, Columbus OH 43210
  Doan Hall, 2nd floor, Nuclear Medicine, Room 211
  You need to take the Doan Hall elevators to the 2nd floor. Report to the 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 have 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.

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