

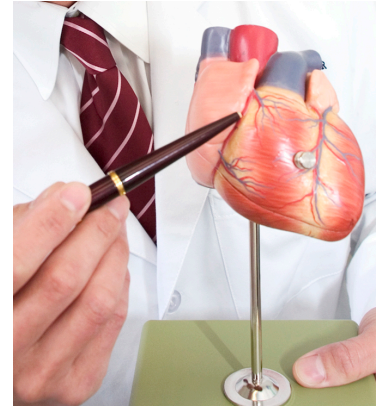
## IV Regadenoson with Radionuclide Imaging

*A test to find and assess heart disease*

### What is this test for?

This imaging test is done to help your doctor assess your heart health. Tests like this often use exercise to increase a patient's heart rate. But, if you cannot exercise, we instead use a drug to increase blood flow to your heart.

For your test, we will use the drug *regadenoson*. You will receive this drug through a small, thin, flexible tube in your arm vein. This tube is called an *intravenous (IV) catheter*.



*This test will help us assess your heart health.*

### What is radionuclide imaging?

*Radionuclide imaging* is a way for us to see your heart. This imaging test is also called a *radioisotope scan*.

After you receive the regadenoson, we will inject a small dose of a *radioactive tracer* into your vein through your IV. We will use a special camera to see where the tracer collects in your heart. This will show us if there is major narrowing in your heart's blood vessels.

### Why should I have this test?

This test will help us see:

- If there are any major blockages in your heart arteries
- Whether you have had heart attacks and how large they were
- The size of your heart's pumping chamber and how well it pumps blood

### How does the test work?

This test will take about 3 hours. A nurse and a nuclear medicine technologist will be present. Here is what to expect:

- We will place a small IV catheter into a vein in your arm or hand. We will then inject a small dose of the tracer into the IV.
- You will sit or lie in a reclining chair. The technologist will bring a camera close to your chest to take pictures of your heart.
- We will then inject regadenoson into your IV. This injection will take about 10 seconds.
- We will closely watch your blood pressure, heart rhythm, and heart rate during and after the injection.
- We may ask you to walk on a treadmill while the regadenoson is being given. You can walk at the speed that feels best to you.
- We will then inject another small dose of the tracer into the IV.
- We then need to wait about 30 minutes before we can take the next set of pictures. During this time, we would like you to have a snack, so please bring something with you to eat. You may also have caffeine at this time.
- After about a half hour, we will take a second set of pictures.

### **Are there any risks with this test?**

- Possible side effects from regadenoson include flushing, chest pain, shortness of breath, headache, or nausea. Any side effects that occur usually go away within a few minutes after we stop giving the drug. We can give you another drug to reverse side effects if they don't go away on their own.
- We will closely watch your vital signs during your test. Problems are very rare with this test. But, we have emergency equipment nearby, in case it is needed.
- The radiation used in this test is similar to the amount used for a *computed tomography* (CT) scan of the belly.

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

Please see our handout, "How to Prepare for Your Radionuclide Imaging Test." It gives details on how to prepare for this test.

### **How do I get the results?**

It will take a few days to get the results of your test. The provider who ordered the test will either talk with you about your results or tell you how to access them.

#### **Questions?**

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns.

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