



Gastric Emptying

Please contact one of the technologists if you have any questions concerning the information seen on this page.

Study Overview

Prep:

- 4 hour NPO
- Prokinetic agents (metoclopramide, tagaserod, domperidone and erythromycin) are typically stopped 48 hours prior
- Opiates/Antispasmodic agents should be stopped 48 hours prior

Exam Time:

- 2 1/2 - 4 Hours

Overview:

- Patient will eat a standard meal of 118 mL (4 oz) egg beaters, 2 slices of white toast, 30 g of jam or jelly, 120 mL water
- A series of images will be taken over a 90 to 240 minute period immediately following the eating of the meal

Contraindications

- Pregnancy
- Breastfeeding
- Hypersensitivity to any material used
- Gastric motility drugs taken within 48 hours

Indications

- Assessment of gastric motility
- Evaluation of obstruction whether mechanical or anatomic
- Evaluation of nausea, vomiting and early satiety
- Evaluation of weight loss
- Evaluation of gastric therapy

Billing/Coding

Nuclear Sonics Billing #: 26

CPT Code: 78264

CPT Name:

Gastric emptying study

Radiopharmaceutical Used:

Tc-99m Sulfur Colloid

HCPCS Code: A9541

NDC #: if needed, please contact NSA technologist

Billing for Rp: per study dose, up to 20 millicuries

Interventional Drug: None

Pregnancy/Breastfeeding Concerns

It is at the discretion of the ordering physician, the radiologist and the patient, whether or not a pregnant patient should have any nuclear medicine procedures performed until after the pregnancy has ended. It is the recommendation of Nuclear Sonics that patients who are breastfeeding should discontinue for 10 half-lives of the radiopharmaceutical. This is typically a Technetium product, which has a radioactive half-life of 6 hours, so the typical discontinuation should occur for 60 hours.

Disclaimer: These are the recommendations of Nuclear Sonics. At times, the ordering provider may choose a different prep, use the study for something other than what is indicated or order the study even if the study is contraindicated. The prospective Radiology Department and/or Nuclear Sonics will ascertain whether or not the ordering provider wishes to go against the recommendations.