Lung Ventilation

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

Study Overview

Prep:

- Chest x-ray needs to be acquired within 24 hours of exam
- No other prep necessary

Exam Time:

- 1 hour

Overview:

- Patient inhales radioactive mist through a nebulizer for approximately 10 minutes while receiving oxygen. Images are immediately taken.

Contraindications

- Pregnancy
- Breastfeeding
- Hypersensitivity to any material used
- Known active pneumonia or other debilitating lung disease, which will yield in a nondeterminable result for a pulmonary embolism

Billing/Coding

Nuclear Sonics Billing #: 41
CPT Code: 78579
CPT Name:
Pulmonary ventilation imaging
(eg. aerosol or gas)
Radiopharmaceutical Used: Tc-99m aerosol
HCPCS Code: A9567
NDC #: if needed, please contact NSA technologist
Billing for Rp: per study dose, up to 75 millicuries
Interventional Drug: None

Indications

- Diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary embolism in conjunction with lung perfusion study
- Evaluation of COPD in conjuction with lung perfusion study
- Evaluation of pulmonary retention
- Evaluation of chest pain
- Evaluation of shortness of breath
- Preoperative evaluation of regional function in bronchogenic carcinoma for both involved and uninvolved lung
- Evaluation of low blood oxygen saturation
- Evaluation of adult respiratory distress syndrome, emphysema, inflammation, chronic bronchitis, asthma, or pneumonia
- Evaluation of pulmonary permeability in restrictive lung disease or pulmonary edema by observing clearance rates
- Evaluation of tracheobronchial epithelium function

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.