



Sentinel Node with Imaging

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

Study Overview

Prep:

According to surgery department

Exam Time:

- 1 to 2 hours

Overview:

Patient is injected with a small amount of radioactive material and various images are acquired for 1 to 2 hours after the injection.

Contraindications

- Pregnancy
- Breastfeeding

Indications

- Identification and localization of draining lymph node groups and sentinel nodes in melanoma, breast cancer as well other cancers
- Localization of nodes in operating room with use of probe used in conjunction with images
- Evaluation of chronic lymphedema of swollen extremity
- Evaluation of lymph kinetics

Billing/Coding

Nuclear Sonics Billing #: 18

CPT Code: 78195

CPT Name:

Lymphatics and lymph nodes imaging

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

Jcode: N/A

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.