



**Exam Duration:** Approximately 2.5 hours **IV Required?** No

**Exam Preparation:** Nothing to eat or drink 4 hours prior to appointment  
No narcotic pain medications 12 hours prior to appointment  
Drugs that may affect gastric motility should be withheld for 2-3 days unless otherwise directed by the ordering physician:

- Reglan
- Proton Pump Inhibitors (Protonix/Pantaprazole, Omaprazole, etc.)
- Other drugs as recommended by your physician

Other nuclear exams performed within 2-3 days may interfere  
Imaging studies using oral barium performed within 2-3 days may interfere

**Note:** If you are allergic to eggs or egg products, please inform us when scheduling your exam or call us at the number listed below.

The Gastric Emptying Study is a nuclear medicine exam used to evaluate the emptying rate of the stomach.

**Exam Procedure:** Upon your arrival, a nuclear medicine technologist will explain the exam in detail and ask questions about your relevant medical history. A meal will be provided for you consisting of eggs, toast, and water. The eggs will be prepared with a small amount of radioactive tracer; this tracer will stay bound to the food as it passes through your stomach.

The meal is not large and should be completed within a relatively short time period. Afterward, you will be positioned on an imaging table with cameras centered over your abdomen; one above and one below. Images are acquired for 2 hours.

After the 2 hours are finished, the technologist will need a few minutes to process your images. Based on preliminary results, you may or may not be asked to return to the department 2 hours later for a single 1-minute picture. If this is necessary, it is important that you do not eat or drink until the entire exam is finished.

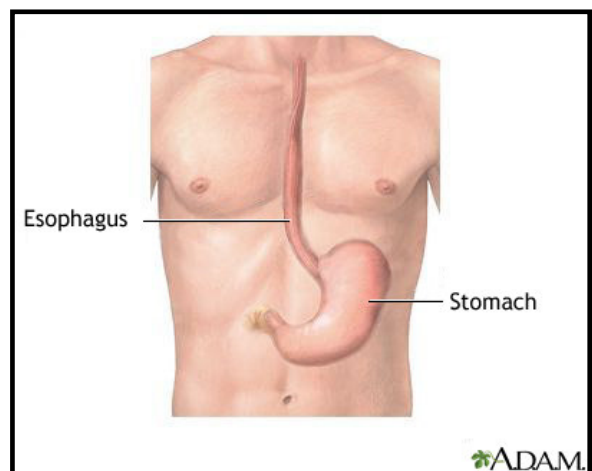
There are no side effects to be concerned about with this exam.

**Notes:** If you are allergic to eggs, oatmeal will be provided as an alternative.

If you are unable to lie flat for 2 hours, please notify the technologist performing your exam so that alternative positioning may be used.

Patients are encouraged to bring an MP3 player and headphones if desired, as listening to music will not interfere with the exam.

Wear comfortable clothing to your appointment. You will not be required to change into a gown for this exam.



**Please feel free to contact the Nuclear Medicine department with any questions at (405) 307-1655.**