## Patient & Family Guide

# Wall Motion Study (MUGA Scan)



### Wall Motion Study (MUGA Scan)

This test gives a movie-like picture of your

beating heart.

#### **Getting ready**

There is no preparation for this test. It is done in the Nuclear Medicine Department. It is **very important** that you tell us if you:

- > may be pregnant
- are breastfeeding
- have had any recent nuclear medicine studies

#### What to wear and bring

- Wear warm comfortable clothing without buttons or zippers.
- Wear footwear that is easy to get on and off.
- Leave all jewelry at home.
- · Empty your pockets.
- Bring a warm sweater without buttons or zippers in case it is cold.

#### How is the test done?

- A small needle will be placed into a vein in your arm. A solution which sticks to your red blood cells for a short time will be injected.
- To monitor your heart rate, a few small patches (electrodes) will be placed over your chest and attached to a machine.
- Another injection of a very small amount of radioisotope will be given 20 minutes later.
   This will also attach to your blood cells.
- Right after the 2nd injection, a gamma camera will be used to take pictures of your heart.
- The test will take about 60-90 minutes.

#### Will the radiation hurt me?

No. The dosage of the radioisotope is so low that it will not be harmful to you.

#### After the test

- You can do all of your usual activities.
- Your doctor will talk about the test results with you at a later date.

If you are not able to come to your appointment, please leave a message at 902-473-1595 so another patient can be booked in your time slot.

#### Looking for more health information?

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For more information, go to http://library.novascotia.ca

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