



Patient & Family Guide  
2018

# Indium White Blood Cell Scan

Aussi disponible en français : *Scintigraphie aux globules blancs marqués à l'indium (FF85-1958)*



[www.nshealth.ca](http://www.nshealth.ca)

# Indium White Blood Cell Scan

An indium white blood cell scan is done in the Nuclear Medicine Department. It is a 2-day test. A radioactive material (radioisotope) is given. A gamma camera is then used to take pictures. You will have to lie still for these pictures but you will not feel any discomfort.

## Getting ready

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 Nuclear Medicine technologist will explain the test to you and set up an intravenous (IV) in a vein in your arm.
- A blood sample will be taken from a vein in your arm.
- The white cells in the blood sample will be labelled with a radioisotope. This will take about 2 hours. The technologist will tell you when to come back.
- The labelled white cells will be injected into a vein in your arm.
- Depending on what your doctor is looking for, you will be asked to return after 3 and 24 hours or only after 24 hours. The technologist will tell you when to come back.
- Each scan 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.

**Please talk with your doctor or technologist if you have any questions or concerns. We are here to help you.**

**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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Contact your local public library for books, videos, magazines, and other resources.

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

Connect with a registered nurse in Nova Scotia any time: call 811 or visit <https://811.novascotia.ca>

Learn about other programs and services in your community: call 211 or visit <http://ns.211.ca>

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If you have any questions, please ask your health care provider.

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The information in this pamphlet is to be updated every 3 years or as needed.