

# Nuclear Medicine Patient Information

## Lung VQ (Ventilation/Perfusion)

Welcome to VCU Health Nuclear Medicine. We are located in the Gateway Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 1200 East Marshall Street. Our hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 7 am to 5 pm. Advanced scheduling is required for all nuclear medicine exams. Please review the following information about your test. Please call (804) 828-6828 to schedule your test or if you have any questions about your nuclear medicine exam.

### What is it?

Imaging to determine the airflow and blood flow in the lungs.

### Why are you having this test?

This test is used to look for evidence of a blood clot in the lungs, called a pulmonary embolus. It may also be used to determine regional lung perfusion.

### Preparing for the test

- No patient preparation.
- A Chest X-ray may be required prior to your test.
- Take your medications as prescribed.
- Bring a picture ID and insurance information.
- Bring with you a current list of medications (including Over the Counter, Herbal, Vitamins, Supplements, etc.) and current allergies.
- Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment.

### What to expect during the test

- The test will take 1 – 2 hours.
- A needle (IV) will be placed in a vein (intravenous catheter).
- You will be asked to breathe from a tube that has a mixture of air, oxygen, and a radioactive mist.

- You will lie down while the camera takes pictures of your lungs for 30 minutes.
- A radioactive tracer will be administered through the IV.
- Again, you will lie down while the camera takes pictures of your lungs for 30 minutes.
- The images will be checked for quality by our Physician and more pictures may be needed.

### After Care Information

- You may return to all your normal activities.
- Most of the radioactive tracer leaves your body through your urine. Drinking extra fluids may help the tracer leave your body faster.

### Contact information if questions or concerns

- Any Questions: Please contact us at (804) 828-6828 and ask to speak to a Nuclear Medicine Technologist. After hours, please call (804) 828-3699.

### Follow-Up Care after the procedure

- Results will be available in 1-2 business days.
- For Results: Please contact the Physician that ordered your test.