

Gastric Emptying Study

A gastric emptying study is a scan that uses nuclear medicine to determine how quickly food leaves the stomach.

Gastric emptying study can be used to assess symptoms such as frequent vomiting, abdominal pain, and early satiety and diagnose gastroparesis.

Prior to the procedure, you will ingest some solid food such as scrambled eggs, some liquid and a small amount of tasteless radioactive isotope. The radioactive isotope allows the camera to follow the food through the digestive process. Over the course of three to five hours, the camera will take four to six images lasting about a minute each.