



## **What to Expect During a PYP Scan**

**Your physician has ordered a PYP Scan and you may be wondering what to expect. The below information will provide you with an overview of the test and hopefully answer any questions you may have and reduce any feelings of anxiety you may have as well.**

### **What is a PYP Scan?**

PYP means pyrophosphate. A PYP scan uses pyrophosphate in a radioactive form.

### **Why did my doctor order this test?**

Cardiologists order these tests for patients to determine if they have a rare disease called cardiac amyloidosis. By performing this test, your doctor will be able to determine what form of amyloidosis you have, how severe it is, and how your body responds to treatment. It is important to know which type of amyloidosis a patient has as treatment will vary depending on the kind of disease.

Cardiac amyloidosis happens when a protein called amyloid builds up in your heart. Amyloid is produced in your bone marrow and can be deposited in any tissue or organ. Patients that have this disease are at risk for heart failure.

### **How long will the test take and can I bring someone with me?**

The test will take about an hour and a half but can last up to 2 hours. During COVID-19 we must limit guests in our office and have limited waiting space during the test. It is preferred that you do not bring a guest unless medically necessary for support or translation assistance for this reason.

### **Are there any special instructions for this test?**

If you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant, or if you are breastfeeding you should tell your doctor prior to having this test. You should not have this test if you have had a heart attack within 6 days of the test. Your doctor will advise you if any special instructions will be necessary leading up to the test. Please let our staff know prior to the day of your test if you have any questions or concerns. We are happy to help make sure you understand and have your questions answered.

### **What will happen on the day of my appointment?**

You will check-in for your test downstairs in suite 100. A member of our nuclear testing team will then escort you to the nuclear testing area and will explain the test in more detail. The technician will inject a small amount of Tc99m-PYP (radioactive tracer) into a vein in your arm

through an IV. The radioactive tracer will be picked up by our special camera which will take two types of pictures that will help provide a 3-dimensional image of your heart structure. You will lie very still during the test in order for us to obtain the best pictures during your test.

**Our friendly, experienced, and knowledgeable staff are happy to answer any questions or address any concerns you have throughout your test in our office. Please do not hesitate to ask, we love to educate!**