



## **Pullman Regional Hospital Nuclear Medicine Department**

### **What is a Cisternogram?**

A Cisternogram evaluates normal fluid pressure around the brain. It is also sometimes used to see if fluid that surrounds the brain and spinal cord is escaping.

### **Before your exam**

There is no prep necessary prior to coming in to have this exam done.

Your doctor's office will schedule a Lumbar puncture (spinal tap) on the same day of your Nuclear Medicine procedure.

### **During your exam**

Once you are registered and checked in at the Same Day Surgery department, a technologist will come to greet you and bring you into the Radiology department. The technologist will explain the procedure and answer any questions you may have.

When you arrive to the Radiology department, you will be set up for the Lumbar puncture. The radiologist will perform the Lumbar procedure and inject a small amount of imaging tracer into your spinal canal. The tracer will not make you feel sick or cause you any side effects.

Once the Lumbar puncture is finished, you will be placed on a hospital bed and taken back to your Same Day Services suite. At 4 hours post your lumbar procedure, a technologist will bring you into the Nuclear Medicine department for your imaging. After this is complete you are free to go. You will return for imaging at 24, 48, and possibly 72 hours post injection.

After each consecutive set of images is complete, the technologist will check with the doctor and let you know if more pictures are required.

### **After your exam**

After the doctor reviews the imaging he/she will let the technologist know if the exam is complete. You can resume your regular activities with no restrictions. The technologist will not be able to give you any results; however, the results should be available to the doctor who ordered your test within one to two business days.

**Thank you**

We are honored that you have chosen Pullman Regional Hospital to serve your healthcare needs.