

Pullman Regional Hospital Nuclear Medicine Department

What is an Indium -111 White Blood Cell Scan?

This is a scan to detect and localize any site of infection and determine the extent of any of the following disorders, to include: inflammatory bowel disease, osteomyelitis, diabetic foot, infected prosthesis, lung infection, fever of unknown origin, post-operative abscess, endocarditis, and infected central venous catheters.

Before your scan

There is no special preparation for this procedure.

During your scan

Once you are registered and checked in at the Outpatient Services desk, a technologist will come out to greet you and bring you into the department. The technologist will explain your test and answer any questions you might have.

The technologist will place an IV in your arm, and attach a special wristband around your wrist. The technologist will draw 50-60ml of blood from you.

Once your blood is drawn you can leave for a few hours. The technologist will extract the white blood cells from your blood and mix them with an imaging tracer. This process takes about 2-3 hours to complete.

The technologist will ask you to return to the department after the labeling process is complete (about 2-3 hours after your blood sample was taken) to re-inject you with your labeled white blood cells. There are no side effects from this process. Once you have been given the injection, you will be asked to return 4 hours later for your first body scan. When you return the scan will take about 30 minutes to complete.

You will be asked to return at 24 hours after the injection to repeat the body scan.

Once the body scans are completed, the radiologist and technologist will review them and determine if additional imaging of your body is needed.

After your scan

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 scan within one to two business days.

Thank you

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