

**DARNALL ARMY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
NUCLEAR MEDICINE SERVICE
254 288-8290**

BRAIN SCAN

Your physician has requested a brain scan. This is a simple, safe screening method to evaluate the brain tissue and its circulation. There is no special preparation or dietary restrictions before or after a brain scan.

Upon arrival to the clinic an IV will be started in your arm and you will lie on a table. After you are relaxed, and injection of a very small amount of the radioactive element called Technetium will be given through the IV. You will feel no ill effects from it, however, it is important that you lie still and remain quiet for the next fifteen minutes as the tracer circulates through your brain. Next, a camera will rotate around your head taking pictures of your brain. It is again important that you lie still during this time, as any movement will degrade the quality of the pictures. This will take 30-45 minutes.

In some cases, your doctor may order a special type of brain scan that requires imaging on two separate days. The procedure for each day is the same as above with the exception that on the first day a medication called acetazolamide will be injected as well. Side effects may occur in 50% of patients and can last up to 15 minutes. These include numbness around the mouth or fingers, light headedness, blurred vision, or flushed feeling around the face and neck.

YOUR APPOINTMENT IS ON _____ AT _____ HOURS

DACH NUCLEAR MEDICINE DEPARTMENT – 254 288-8290/8291

**To avoid unnecessary radioactive material exposure to your child (children), please DO NOT BRING THEM TO THE CLINIC unless they have a scheduled appointment.*