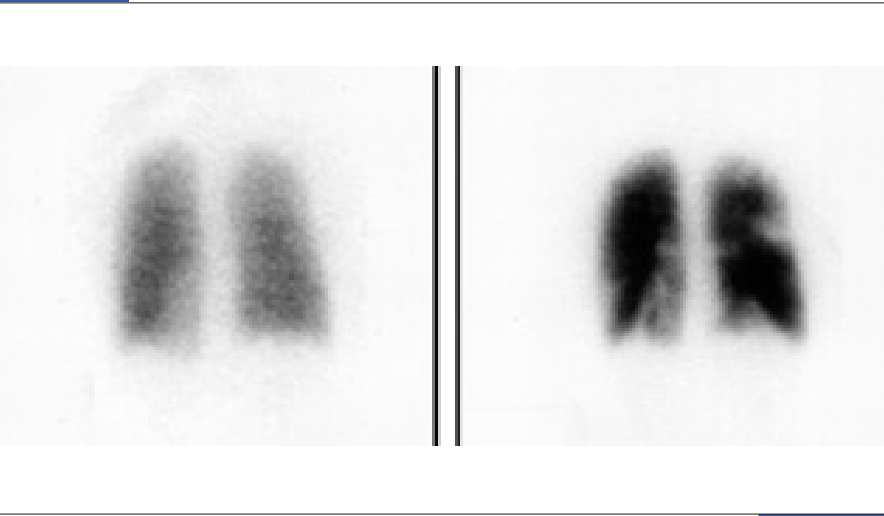




Understanding Lung VQ Scan

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What is a Lung VQ Scan?

A Lung VQ Scan is a specialized nuclear medicine imaging study that is used to examine ventilation and perfusion (blood flow) in the lungs. It comprises ventilation imaging to identify how air circulates in your lungs and perfusion imaging to assess blood flow. Trace amounts of radioactive isotopes are administered, and a gamma camera is used to image the lungs to evaluate the distribution of breathing and blood flow.

Why is it Performed?

A lung V/Q scan is suggested when physicians need to determine whether there is a problem with blood flow or ventilation in the lungs, generally if there is an abnormal blood clot in the lungs or a pulmonary embolus is suspected. Analysis of the results is performed based on the patient's symptoms, medical history, clinical examination, and other investigations conducted to assist in further evaluation.

Preparation

- Inform the medical team if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.
- Share details of your current medicines and any relevant medical conditions.
- Bring previous chest X-rays, CT scans, or other relevant reports if available.
- Follow any specific food, medicine, or preparation instructions provided by the medical team.

Procedure

The radioactive tracer is used for ventilation imaging in order to measure the airflow passing through the lungs. In imaging, a small quantity of radioactive dye is injected into an artery and used to assess blood flow in the lungs. Images are acquired with a gamma camera by following the recommended protocol during the examination. Patients are asked to lie still and follow directions when taking images. The whole procedure varies depends as per the protocol and the individual's requirements.

Important Instructions

- Follow all instructions provided by the nuclear medicine team.
- Remain still and follow breathing instructions during image acquisition.
- Inform the medical staff if you experience discomfort or have any concerns.
- Provide complete information about your medicines, allergies, and relevant medical conditions.
- Inform the team about pregnancy or breastfeeding before the examination.
- Follow any instructions regarding food, medicines, or fluids.
- Follow the recommended post-scan instructions provided by the medical team.
- Maintain adequate fluids after the scan if advised and if there are no medical restrictions.

Safety Precautions

The scan involves giving small doses of radioactive material under proper medical care. Suitable precautions are taken as per the medical requirements of the patient. Inform your medical team about pregnancy, breastfeeding, medication, and any clinical condition.

When to Seek Medical Attention?

If you are experiencing sudden or severe breathing difficulty, chest pain, fever, or other serious symptoms. Inform the medical staff about preparation materials, any medicines to be taken or used, or post-scan care. Lung VQ Scans at Molecular Diagnostics and Therapy are conducted with appropriate nuclear medicine protocols, under the supervision of specialists, with proper care for patient safety and comfort.