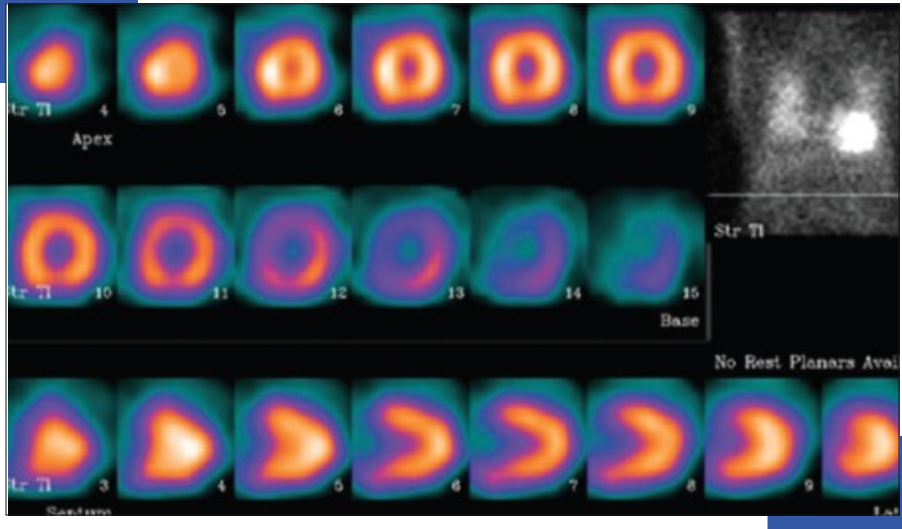




Understanding Stress Thallium

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What is Stress Thallium?

Stress thallium is a special type of nuclear medicine scan that assesses blood flow to the heart muscle. During the scan, a small amount of radiotracer is inserted into the patient's vein. The tracer circulates through the bloodstream and gets absorbed by heart muscle cells. A gamma camera obtains images of the blood flow that are used to check blood flow in different regions of the heart.

Why is it Performed?

This procedure is used to diagnose suspected coronary artery disease, to check for tightness in the chest wall, or when there is an abnormal amount of blood going to or from the heart. It also allows the medical team to compare blood flow and determine where it needs further clinical examination.

Preparation

- Inform the medical team if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.
- Share details of current medicines, allergies, and medical conditions.
- Follow instructions regarding fasting, food, caffeine, and medicines.
- Carry previous cardiac reports, ECGs, or relevant imaging results.
- Follow any additional preparation instructions provided by your doctor or medical team.

Procedure

A small amount of radioactive thallium tracer is given into the bloodstream to aid the assessment of blood flow to the heart muscle. In this stage, the medical professionals closely observe indicators such as blood pressure, heart rate, and other observations related to the heart. The gamma camera is used to obtain images for evaluation of the tracer in various parts of the heart.

Important Instructions

- Avoid food and caffeine only as specifically instructed.
- Inform staff if you feel uncomfortable or develop unusual symptoms.
- Remain still and relaxed during imaging.
- Take medicines only as directed by your medical team.
- Follow all post-scan instructions.
- Drink fluids after the scan if advised and not medically restricted.

Safety Precautions

This examination uses a controlled amount of radioactive substance administered under expert medical supervision. Heart rate and blood pressure are monitored during stress testing. Appropriate safety measures are followed throughout the procedure at our centre. Inform the medical team about pregnancy, breastfeeding, allergies, medicines, and relevant clinical conditions before the examination.

When to Seek Medical Attention?

If the patient experiences sudden, unusual, or persistent symptoms after the scan, inform the medical team. At Molecular Diagnostics and Therapy, Stress Thallium is performed using appropriate nuclear medicine protocols, with patient safety, comfort, and proper monitoring kept in mind throughout the procedure.