

LYMPHOSCINTIGRAPHY WITHOUT IMAGING
UPDATED: FEBRUARY 2012

CPT CODE: 38792

Indications: This procedure is for patients who will be given intradermal or subdermal injections only, and can be done outside the Nuclear Medicine Division, usually in the Operating Room. This is for patients who will NOT have imaging as part of this procedure. These are for patients with breast cancer and the injection is part of the sentinel lymph node identification.

Patient Prep: No patient prep is required for this procedure. The patients will often be under anesthesia at the time of the injection.

Scheduling: This exam is scheduled only if ordered as **Injection Only**. If Injection Only is not requested, then schedule as Lymphoscintigraphy with imaging, which is our default procedure.

Scheduler needs to ask if the Lymphoscintigraphy injection is to be performed in the O.R. or in Nuclear Medicine.

- If in the O.R.: Total time is 30 minutes on the MD schedule
- If in Nuclear Medicine: Total time is 30 minutes on one of the following NM resources - B, E, A, or D

Standard appointment times are 8:00 AM through 11:45 AM, and 2:00 PM through 4:00 PM.

If the requested appointment time is outside the times listed above, an In-Box message needs to be sent to gain faculty approval and notification.

Radiopharmaceutical

& Dose: Radiopharmaceutical: 0.5 (+/- 20%) Tc-99m sulfur colloid - ultra-filtered minicolloid.

Dose is not weight adjusted.

Procedure/Injection:

The patient will have the skin area cleansed by the person doing the injection, and then anywhere from 1 to 4 intradermal or subdermal injections of radiopharmaceutical will be administered.

Imaging Device: There is no imaging associated with this procedure. The sentinel lymph node(s) will be identified using the probe by the surgeon.

Data Analysis: None needed.

Radiation Survey: If the injection is performed in the O.R., then the O.R. room must be surveyed for radiation contamination AFTER the case is complete, and the patient is removed from the room. The O.R. will call Nuclear Medicine at 225-6094 when the room is ready to be surveyed. NO CLEANING will take place until someone from Nuclear Medicine or designate has surveyed the room and collected all contaminated items.

Interpretation: Interpretation is performed by the surgeon using the probe to identify the sentinel lymph nodes.

Reviewed By: S. Perlman, D. Fuerbringer, S. Knishka

Scott B. Perlman, MD, MS
Chief, Nuclear Medicine

Derek Fuerbringer, CNMT
Manager, Nuclear Medicine

Scott Knishka, RPh, BCNP
Radiopharmacist