



This family education sheet explains what to expect during your child's test.

Key points

- You and your child will go to the Nuclear Medicine department for the lung ventilation and perfusion (VQ) scan.
- The doctors will look at the air flow and blood flow to your child's lungs.
- A nuclear medicine technologist does the scan in 2 parts.
- Your child will get an injection as part of the test.

Part 1 - Lung ventilation

- The first part of the scan looks at the air flow to your child's lungs.
- Your child will lie on a long bed that will move between 2 cameras that look like boxes. The cameras will come close to your child but won't touch them (see Figure 1.)
- The technologist will hold a mask on your child's face, covering their nose and mouth. The mask connects to a bag that has oxygen and a radioactive gas that your child will breathe in.
- There's no smell or taste to the gas and it won't make your child feel any different. Your child will breathe normally into the mask for a few minutes and images will be taken while your child is breathing.
- Your child will have to lie still for the pictures.
- Once the pictures are done, the mask will be taken off. A fan will be placed next to your child's face for a few minutes to get rid of any extra gas.

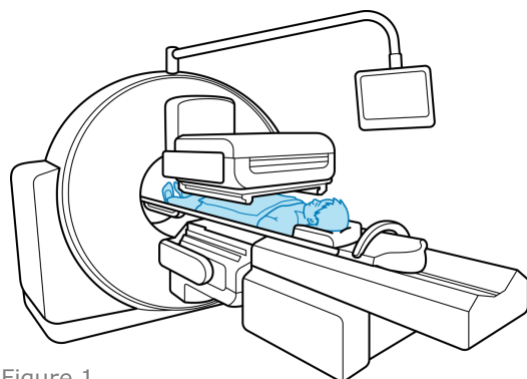


Figure 1.

Part 2 - Lung perfusion

- When the first part of the test is done, your child will stay on the bed and will start the second part of the test.
- This part of the test looks at the blood flow to your child's lungs.
- A radioactive tracer will be injected into 1 of your child's veins.
- The tracer doesn't make your child feel any different. They may feel a small poke when the tracer is injected, but the needle will be taken out once the tracer is in.
- Your child will lie still under the camera for about 1-2 minutes while the pictures are taken. When the pictures are done, the test will be over.

How can I help my child during the test?

Our Nuclear Medicine department has a child life specialist available to tell your child about the scan and help them feel more comfortable during the test. Some children like to watch videos, listen to music or have a comforting item close to them during the test. You'll be able to stay with your child for the entire test.

This family education sheet is available in Spanish and Portuguese.