

Multiple Gated Analysis Study (MUGA)

What is a MUGA?

It is a test that measures how well your heart works. You will be given a small amount of radioactive compound. Then pictures are taken and an electrocardiogram (EKG) is done as the compound travels through your heart.

Why is this test done?

This test is done to:

- See how well your heart is pumping
- Look for weak areas in your heart
- Test the effects of medicines you take on your heart

What do I have to do to get ready for the test?

You do not have to do anything to get ready for the test. You may be more comfortable if you urinate before you go to the test.

What happens during the test?

An intravenous (IV) line is put in a vein in your arm or hand. An IV is a small plastic tube inserted with a needle. A radioactive tracer is injected into the IV. The amount of radiation you are exposed to in this test is small. Like having an x-ray. The radioactive material should not have any side effects.

You will lie on your back on an exam table. EKG pads are put on the body and an imaging camera is placed over you. The camera takes pictures of your heart. You may be asked to change positions so the person doing the test can get a better picture.

You should not feel any pain during the test. Someone will be with you during the test. Please ask them any questions you have. This test takes about 30 minutes to an hour.

What should I do after the test?

Unless your doctor tells you something else, you should drink extra liquids. This helps flush the compound out of your body. The radioactive compound used during the test takes about 24 hours to pass through your system. There is no risk of harm to you or others. You can return to your normal activities after the test.

When will I get the test results?

The results will be available later the same day or the next day. Your doctor will tell you the results.

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