

Lexiscan

Lexiscan is a type of medication used during a pharmacologic stress test. This test is done when patients need evaluation for blockages of their arteries but are unable to exercise on the treadmill. This may be due to leg or back injury or reconditioning. This test is done very similar to an exercise nuclear stress test except we use a medication to simulate a stress on the heart. This medication may cause chest pain, palpitations, or shortness of breath. It may also cause nausea, abdominal pain, or headache. Some people may experience none of these symptoms.

The stress test may take **3-4 hours** to complete. This is because images of the heart are obtained prior to and after stress. The first set of images is obtained prior to Lexiscan injection and after being injected with a radioisotope that is taken up by the heart. After Lexiscan is injected, another injection of a radioisotope is given to assess blood flow to the heart with stress. After an appropriate delay, the second set of images is obtained. These two sets of images allow your physician to compare blood flow to the heart at rest and with stress. If you have a blockage in an artery of the heart, typically there will be less flow of blood to the heart with stress than there is at rest. The images of your heart are obtained with a camera that requires you to lay flat on a scanning table with your arms above your head for 20-30 minutes. If you are unable to do this, you should let your physician know immediately as a different type of test may be scheduled.

****Preparation** for a myocardial perfusion scan usually involves an **overnight fast** or at least **4 hours** prior to the test if it is being done in the afternoon. **Do not drink caffeine or decaffeinated beverages for 24 hours prior to test.** If you are diabetic, you should ask your doctor for instructions regarding your insulin or diabetic medications on the day of the test. Typically these medications are held or the doses are lowered. If you are on heart medications such as nitroglycerin, beta-blocker or calcium channel blocker these medications may need to be held prior to your test. You should wear comfortable clothes. For women, it is best to wear a loose fitting top that opens in the front.

Bring a snack or sandwich to eat because you will be in the office for several hours and allowed to eat after the stress portion of your test.

If you are **pregnant**, or have a pregnant spouse at home please notify your doctor, as there is a small risk involved with this test. Please discuss with the doctor prior to scheduling the test.

Once you have completed your stress test, you may go home or return to work unless otherwise notified. Please make sure we have removed all IVs and electrodes prior to leaving. You will receive a phone call from your physician within 24-48 hours to let you know of the results. If you have not heard of the results after 48 hours, please call the office

A 24 hour cancellation notification is required for testing. Otherwise there will be a \$185 charge which includes the cost of the medication pre-ordered and no cancellation fee.

Signature _____

Date: _____