The Value & Quality of Nuclear Medicine
Lymphoscintigraphy Patient Information

Patient-Focused Videos
Watch these informative videos to learn more about molecular imaging and how nuclear medicine can help in the diagnosis and treatment of disease.

What is Nuclear Medicine?
Nuclear medicine uses very small amounts of radioactive materials called radiopharmaceuticals to diagnose and treat disease.

What is a Lymphoscintigraphy Exam?
Lymphoscintigraphy is a procedure that provides images of the lymphatic system, a network of small channels that circulate fluid (called lymph) and cells (lymphocytes) of the immune system throughout the body. Lymph nodes, which act like a filter for foreign bodies such as germs, viruses and pollen, are located along this network.

Lymphoscintigraphy helps identify the first line of lymph nodes (called “sentinel lymph nodes”) that filter lymph fluid from the site of a cancer.

Advantages of a Lymphoscintigraphy Exam
• Lymphoscintigraphy is a valuable tool for mapping where the cancer might spread to other parts of the body. Because cancers can travel throughout the lymphatic system in unexpected ways, lymphoscintigraphy is helpful in directing the surgeon to potentially cancerous areas that may have otherwise been overlooked.
• Images generated by the procedure allow physicians to remove only sentinel lymph nodes, sparing patients from undergoing unnecessary removal of normal unaffected lymph nodes.

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