Sometimes during **NUCLEAR MEDICINE** imaging, such as PET/SPECT scans, patients can be unknowingly exposed to high doses of radiation.

About 15%* of the time, technicians accidentally inject the radioactive drug into patients’ arm tissue. This error is called an **EXTRAVASATION**.

Serious extravasations can lead to **inaccurate scans**, **wrong diagnosis or treatment**, arm damage weeks or months later, and an **increased risk of cancer**.

Many patients have no immediate signs, but some experience:

- Burning or tingling sensation*
- Swelling, pain, redness, or numbness*
- An unusual feeling at the injection site

One way to know for sure—ask your healthcare provider for an image of your injection site. A black spot there can be evidence of an error.

*Information on the frequency and symptoms of extravasation can be found in a white paper by Versant Medical Physics and Radiation Safety.

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