

PROTECT YOURSELF DURING SCANS

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.



REVIEW
YOUR
SCANS

SHARE
YOUR STORY
AND
IMAGES

SIGN
THE
PETITION

Patients for Safer Nuclear Medicine has 31 member organizations, and together we're advocating for safer nuclear scans.

Learn more at safernuclearmedicine.org  twitter.com/SaferNuclear

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