You are scheduled for a Gallium Scan for infection imaging on ___________ at ___________.

Please report to TC100 in Mitchell Hospital 20 minutes before your appointment time to register for the test.

ABOUT THE TEST
A Gallium Scan is used to look for a possible infection in your body. A radioactive tracer is used for the test. It will be injected into your vein. The amount of radioactivity is small and well within limits that are safe. This is two a day test. You will be at the medical center about 1 hour the first day for the injection and about 2 hours the second day for imaging.

NOTE: Patients who are pregnant or may be pregnant should consult their physician before having this test.

PREPARATION FOR THE TEST
Bowel preparation is required for this test. The technologist will provide you with instructions for bowel preparation on the day of your injection.

HOW IS THE TEST PERFORMED?
Day 1
When you arrive in the Nuclear Medicine Department, a technologist will confirm your identity and ask you questions about your medical history. He/she will explain the test to you and answer any questions you may have. The technologist will start an intravenous line (IV) in your hand or arm. He/She will inject the tracer through the IV. The technologist will give you detailed bowel preparation instructions. The technologist will ask you to return to the Nuclear Medicine Department the next day for imaging. This time is needed for your body to absorb the tracer. There are no side effects from the injection.

Day 2
When you return to the Nuclear Medicine Department the technologist will ask you to lie down on an imaging table under a special camera and pictures of your entire body (head to toe) will be taken. The camera needs to be as close as possible to you, but will not touch you. It is important that you lay very still while the pictures are being taken. A nuclear medicine doctor will review the pictures and may ask for more pictures to obtain more detailed information. If additional pictures are needed, do not be alarmed. They are a routine part of the test. This part of the test takes about 1 to 1 ½ hours to complete.

AFTER THE TEST
You may resume your normal activities and diet after the test. A Nuclear Medicine physician will interpret the exam and the results will be sent to the ordering physician. If you have any questions about the procedure or cannot keep the appointment, please call the Nuclear Medicine scheduling staff at 773-795-9723.