You are scheduled for an OctreoScan® on: __________________ at ________________

Please arrive in Mitchell TC100 20 minutes prior to your appointment time to register for the test.

What is an OctreoScan®?
An OctreoScan® is a test that looks for tumors in the body. This scan detects any areas of tumors with Somatostatin receptors. This information helps your doctor plan your treatment.

How to prepare for the exam:
The medication Sandostatin can interfere with the accuracy of the OctreoScan®. If you are taking the short acting release form (SAR) you should discontinue it 2-3 days before the scan. If you are taking the long acting release form (LAR) you should discontinue it 3 weeks before the scan. However, please consult your physician before stopping the medication.

You will be given instructions to cleanse your lower bowel or colon after the injection of radioactive material. The bowel preparation will help the doctor see your abdomen more clearly. This will be explained to you in detail on the first day of your test.

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

How is the exam performed?
An OctreoScan® is performed over several days. The first day a technologist will confirm your identity and the test to be performed. A radiologist will review your list of medications to confirm you can have the test safely. After confirming all the information the technologist will explain the entire procedure and answer any questions you may have. The technologist will then access your vein by inserting an intravenous (IV) line in your arm and inject a small amount of radioactive material into your vein. There are no side affects. The amount of radiation used in this test is small, and well within limits that are safe. The radioactive material needs to circulate for four hours before the first set of images are taken. You will be able to leave the department during this time. When you return to the department the technologist will assist you onto the imaging table. You will lie on your back and a camera will scan the entire length of your body. This will take about 30 minutes. After the whole body scan is complete the technologist may take more detailed pictures of a portion of your body such as your chest or abdomen. For these images, the camera will rotate slowly around you for an additional 25-30 minutes. You will then be asked to return the following day for a similar sequence of images. You will not be injected on the second day.

How long does it take?
You will be at the medical center for about 6 hours on the first day. The test requires a delay of four (4) hours between the injection of the radioactive material and imaging procedure on the first day. The imaging itself takes about two (2) hours. The second day you will be at the medical center for about two (2) hours for the final images.

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 physician who ordered the test. If you have any questions about the procedure or cannot keep the appointment, please call the Nuclear Medicine scheduling staff at 773-702-6161.