



For All Ordering Providers

Nuclear Medicine Exams with Ventilation Inactive During Pandemic *Effective Now*

Due to concerns about spreading COVID-19, VQ scans will now be performed as perfusion-only scans (no ventilation scan). The following Nuclear Medicine exams with ventilation are now inactive:

- IMG442 NM Lung Quantitative Differential Function Ventilation/Perfusion
- IMG435 NM Lung Ventilation Perfusion
- IMG439 NM Lung Ventilation Gaseous

Our Nuclear Medicine experts assure us that this change only results in a minimal, if any, loss of diagnostic accuracy and whenever possible, encourage movement toward CTA instead of VQ. This provides slightly improved diagnosis of PE and allows diagnosis of a wide range of other etiologies for the patient's pulmonary symptoms.

- CT IV contrast was recently shown to be much safer than previously believed.
- A recent consensus paper from the American Academy of Radiology and the National Kidney Foundation concludes that the risk of renal injury if the estimated GFR is 30 ml/min/1.73m² or higher is 0-2 percent.
- The risk is fairly low even for lower GFRs.

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