



BRAIN DEATH FACT SHEET: Neurolite (ECD) (bicisate Tc-99m)

INDICATIONS:

- Confirm a clinical diagnosis of brain death.

CONTRAINDICATION:

- None

SUPPLY AND STORAGE:

- Store kit at 15° to 30°C (59°-77°F).
- Use formulated drug within 6 hours after preparation.

PATIENT PREPARATION:

- In some institutions, a tourniquet is placed around the scalp, encircling the head just above the eyebrows, ears, and around the posterior prominence of the skull. The tourniquet can help diminish scalp blood flow, preventing it from being confused with brain flow.

DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION:

- 70-1110 MBq (10-30 mCi).

IMAGING PARAMETERS:

- UPTAKE TIME:
 - Flow & delayed images at 15- 20 minutes.
- ACQUISITION PARAMETERS:
 - High-resolution or UHR collimation is recommended. Flow and delayed planar images are sufficient for evaluation. In cases where scalp or other uptake of tracer is confounding interpretation, SPECT may be indicated.
- PATIENT POSITIONING:
 - Supine

POST EXAM PATIENT INSTRUCTION:

- None

PROCEDURE NOTES

- Accumulation of tracer in the nasal region, because of flow through the maxillary branches of the external carotid arteries secondary to increased intracranial pressure, causes a "hot nose" sign, which confirms brain death in the absence of intracerebral tracer activity. (But if the "hot nose" sign is seen with intracerebral tracer activity, this is a sign of decreased cerebral perfusion due to CVA or occlusive disease.)