

NUCLEAR MEDICINE & PET/CT

At Rady Children's Hospital in Orange County, our Nuclear Medicine program is designed exclusively around the unique needs of children. As Orange County's only pediatric-focused Nuclear Medicine program, we provide advanced diagnostic and therapeutic procedures using age-appropriate protocols, lower radiation doses necessary (ALARA), and family-centered approach to care. Our multidisciplinary team includes board-certified pediatric radiologists, specialized pediatric nuclear medicine technologists, pediatric nurses, and Child Life providing exceptional diagnostic and therapeutic care.

WHY CHOOSE RADY CHILDREN'S NUCLEAR MEDICINE?

- Diagnostic Imaging Center of Excellence® (DICOE) designated by the American College of Radiology.
- Advanced PET/CT and SPECT/CT technology designed for pediatric imaging.
- Dedicated Child Life Specialists who help children feel comfortable, reduce anxiety, and improve the imaging experience.
- Specialized pediatric radiologists and technologists who collaborate closely with the referring providers to deliver coordinated, high-quality care.
- Annual pediatric-specific education for imaging staff to ensure continuous excellent care and communication.

NUCLEAR MEDICINE SERVICES

Below are our most commonly performed studies. Additional Nuclear Medicine services are available.

PET/CT

- **Oncology PET/CT:** Evaluates the extent of disease, treatment response, and recurrence in pediatric cancers.
- **Fever of Unknown Origin (FUO):** Identifies hidden infection or inflammation when the source of persistent fever remains unclear.
- **Brain PET:** Evaluates brain metabolism to assist in epilepsy or oncologic surgical planning.

SPECT/CT

- **Bone SPECT/CT:** Improves localization of fractures, infection, inflammation, and other bone abnormalities.
- **Gastrointestinal Bleeding:** Localizes active gastrointestinal bleeding.
- **Ictal Brain SPECT:** Identifies the origin of seizure activity during epilepsy evaluation.



GENERAL NUCLEAR MEDICINE

- **Renal Imaging:** Evaluates kidney function, drainage, and scarring.
- **Gastric Emptying Study:** Measures stomach emptying to evaluate gastroparesis.
- **HIDA Scan:** Evaluates gallbladder and biliary system function.
- **Meckel Scan:** Detects ectopic gastric tissue in children with unexplained gastrointestinal bleeding.
- **Bone Scan:** Evaluates fractures, infection, tumors, inflammation, and unexplained bone pain.
- **Thyroid Imaging:** Evaluates thyroid anatomy, function, thyroid carcinoma and metastasis.
- **MIBG Imaging:** Detects and monitors neuroblastoma and related tumors.

THERAPY

- **Radioiodine Therapy:** Provides targeted treatment for selected thyroid disorders.

LOCATION

Rady Children's Hospital, Orange County

Bill Holmes Tower – First Floor
1201 W. La Veta Avenue
Orange, CA 92868

Appointments: 888-770-2462

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