What is a Gastric Emptying Study (GET)?
A Gastric Emptying Study is a test to determine the time it takes a liquid meal to move through a person’s stomach. It is typically ordered by physicians for patients with frequent vomiting, gastroparesis, abdominal pain, early satiety and pre-operative evaluation.

How should I prepare for a Gastric Emptying Study (GET)?
You should be not eat or drink anything after midnight the day before the test, and until after the test is completed.

How long does the test take?
This test takes one and a half hours to complete in one visit. When you arrive to the nuclear medicine department a technologist will take you to the imaging room and have you drink a cup of water. In the water will be a radioactive isotope. This isotope will not make the water taste or look any different. It just allows us to see your stomach under our imaging camera. Immediately after you drink the water a one minute image of your stomach will be taken. We will then take another one minute image 30 minutes and 60 minutes later. You will not be allowed to eat or drink anything until the last image is taken.

How soon will the scan results be available?
A radiologist will interpret the images, write a report, and deliver the results to your doctor via the internal computer system.

It is essential to tell your doctor if you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant before undergoing this scan because of radiation exposure.

If you would need to cancel your appointment please notify the Nuclear Medicine department as soon as possible at 216.444.2807.

This information is provided by Cleveland Clinic and is not intended to replace the medical advice of your doctor or health care provider. Please consult your health care provider for advice about a specific medical condition.