

Hepatobiliary iminodiacetic acid

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Hepatobiliary iminodiacetic acid (HIDA) labelled with technetium-99m (Tc-HIDA) is concentrated by hepatocytes and excreted with bile, visualising intrahepatic uptake, the extrahepatic biliary system and the gallbladder. Under normal circumstances HIDA enters the duodenum within 30 minutes and scintigraphy produces an image together with an activity-time curve. HIDA scanning is useful because biliary excretion occurs despite hyperbilirubinaemia ($<85 \mu\text{mol/L}$). It is most commonly used to investigate biliary atresia, to investigate jaundice in liver transplant patients and to demonstrate patency of the biliary tract.

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