



Royal Hospital Nuclear Medicine Department

I-131 MIBG Scan

Patient Information Sheet

How Nuclear Medicine Works?

Nuclear Medicine exams can help to assess how well your organs are working. Hence, it is different from other areas of radiology, which create images of the body anatomy. During a nuclear medicine procedure, you will receive an injection of a radioactive material called a radiopharmaceutical. When the radiopharmaceutical reaches the right area, a special machine called a gamma camera will take pictures of the area of interest.

What is I-131 MIBG Scan?

MIBG scan is used to detect certain types of tumors called neuro-endocrine tumors.

What is involved in this test?

This test is done over a period of 2-3 days.

- In the first day you will be given an injection of radiopharmaceutical in your arm. Then you will be asked to go home and return after 2 days for the imaging part of the test.
- When you come 2 days after the injection, a technologist will ask you to lie down on a scanner bed and the scan will take one hour to complete.
- Once completed, the images will be shown to a Nuclear Medicine Specialist, who may then request extra delayed imaging, 3 days after the injection (24 hours after the first scan).

What happens after the test?

- You may resume your normal activities once the examination is completed.
- The report will be sent to your doctor.
- Advised to drink plenty of fluid for the rest of the day and empty your bladder regularly. This helps wash out the tracer from your body more quickly.
- For the rest of the day following your injection of Iodine-131 MIBG, you

should try to avoid long periods of close contact with other people. This is to minimize their exposure to a small dose of radiation.

Preparation:

- Thyroid blockage should be given for 2 days before Iodine-131 MIBG and continued for 4 days after administration of I-131 MIBG.
- Remove all metals from the patient.
- The whole body scan will be at 48 and 72 hours post injection.
- Patient can lie down in supine position without motion at least 30 min.

For female patients

- If you are pregnant, please tell the technologist before you are injected with the radioactive tracer. Please consult your technologist if you are breastfeeding for further instructions.

Your I-131 MIBG Scan has been scheduled for _____ at _____

If you have any questions or concerns about the test, or if you need to cancel or reschedule your appointment, please contact the Nuclear Medicine Department at 24627069

Nuclear Medicine Department is located on the Ground floor in the Oncology Centre

Please check in with nuclear medicine reception 15 minutes before your appointment.

