



Royal Hospital Nuclear Medicine Department

Thyroid 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 a Thyroid Scan?

It is a test used to determine the size, shape and position of the thyroid gland. It is also performed to evaluate the function of the gland.

What is involved in this test?

- A small amount of radiopharmaceutical will be injected into a vein in your arm.
- Scan will be performed 20 min after the injection.
- A technologist will ask you to lie down on the scanner bed and images of your neck will be taken.
- The procedure will last for about 20 minutes.

What happens after the test?

You may resume your normal activities once the examination is completed. The report will be sent to your doctor. There are no known side effects to this test.

Preparation

- Remove all metals from the patient.
- Stop all medication related to thyroid.
 - Carbimazole should be stopped for 3-5 days.
 - Thyroxine should be stopped for 3-4 weeks.
- Patient can lie down in supine position without motion at least 20 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 **Thyroid** 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.

