

INFORMATION FOR OUR PATIENTS: I – 123 THYROID UPTAKE & SCAN

You have been scheduled for an I-123 Thyroid Uptake / Scan which involves the use of small amounts of radioactive materials to trace the concentrations in your Thyroid Gland. The level of radioactive materials used is extremely low and has no known side effects. You will be given a capsule orally. Using a special nuclear medicine camera, pictures of the thyroid glands will be obtained. The camera does not produce radiation; it simply detects and records the signals from the ingested radioactive compound released from the ingested capsule as it concentrates in your thyroid.

Preparation for the Procedure:

You must finish breakfast 2 hours before ingesting the pill (at the first appointment of Day 1). You must follow the Low-Iodine Diet 3-7 days prior to Day 1. You cannot eat 1 hour after the pill is administered.

These preparation instructions for the procedure may be altered by the Doctor based on the individual patient or health condition.

What to Expect :

This scan occurs during 2 consecutive days. You will be asked to arrive in our office on Day 1 of your scan, some time in the morning, in order for our nuclear technician to administer a capsule, which contains a radioactive tracer material. This first appointment may take approximately 10-30 minutes. You shall return on the same day in the afternoon, approximately 4-6 hours later, and then you shall return again 24 hours after the initial ingestion of the radioactive material some time in the morning. By using specialized equipment called a Gamma Camera, we will capture the concentration of the radioactive material onto photographic paper. These appointments take approximately 10-30 minutes. In addition, by using special mathematical calculations, we will also evaluate the rate of concentration of the radioactive materials.

If you have any questions please call: (480) 838-2277

***Note: Female patients of child-bearing age will be required to complete a serum pregnancy test the day before the scan.**