

Thyroid Uptake and Scan

Your doctor has ordered a thyroid scan, and has entrusted you to the care of your specially trained Nuclear Medicine professionals. These professionals work closely together to give you the best care, and the most accurate information to your doctor.

The thyroid uptake and scan is a commonly performed test that determines the overall function of your thyroid gland and shows the structure of the gland.

It is very important that you eliminate salt in your diet, and absolutely no fish or seafood until completion of the study. You are not to eat anything for 4 hours prior to taking the capsule on the first day and nothing to eat for 2 hours immediately following administration of the capsule.

You must also be off all thyroid medication a minimum of 4 weeks prior to the study. If you are uncomfortable with this requirement, please consult your doctor for alternate medication.

UPTAKE

You will be given a small amount of radioactive iodine in a capsule form. You may be asked to return a few hours later and the following day to undergo an uptake procedure that measures the absorption of the radioactive iodine by your thyroid gland. To measure uptake, a probe/counting device is placed a few inches in front of your neck and several counts are taken; this will take 5-10 minutes. The number of uptake measurements taken and the times at which they are taken may vary based on your doctor's request or the Nuclear Medicine Department's procedure.

SCAN

The thyroid scan is usually performed after the uptake measurements, usually on a return visit the following day. It provides a picture of the gland's structure to determine its size, shape and the presence of any abnormalities or lumps. The scan will take about 60 minutes. Following the imaging, we will ask that you wait to talk to our physician about your results.

YOUR APPOINTMENT IS ON _____ AT _____ HOURS
and _____ AT _____ HOURS

DACH NUCLEAR MEDICINE DEPARTMENT – (254) 288-8290/8291

Medical Records NOT needed.

*To avoid unnecessary radioactive material exposure to your children, please **DO NOT BRING THEM TO THE CLINIC** unless they have a scheduled appointment.

