

THYROID SCAN (THYROID SCINTIGRAPHY)

Appointment

Date:

Time:

This test is all about your thyroid

Why has your doctor recommended this test?

A thyroid pertechnetate scan is used to see the thyroid and how it is working.

You can drive to and from the test if you want to, but you are more than welcome to bring a friend or family member for support. Our offices are clearly signposted with ample onsite parking.

Before your test

You may be required to stop certain thyroid medications (eg. thyroxine) 4-6 weeks prior to the test commencing. Please ensure that your current medications are listed on your referral and provided to NZMI Reception at the time of booking. You will be advised of which medications, if any, you will need to stop, and when you need to stop them.

Some medications used in CT scans will affect the outcome of the test. Please contact the technologist if you have had a CT scan within the last month prior to your Thyroid scan.

Please inform the technologist if you are pregnant, there is a possibility you might be pregnant, or if you are breastfeeding, prior to your scan.

What happens during the test?

The test takes between 30-45 minutes:

- 1 You will be asked to lie down on the imaging bed, and the camera will be over your head and neck. You don't need to take your clothes off.
- 2 A small amount of a mild radioactive liquid will be given through a vein in your arm. It feels similar to having a blood test, does not make you feel any different, and there are no side effects.
- 3 The Imaging process then begins and images are collected over the next 30 minutes.

Should I be worried about the Radiation dose?

There is no need to worry. The radiation dose from this procedure is relatively low and it's similar to what you would be exposed to in a standard x-ray.

However if you are worried or have any concerns, please share them with any of our staff, they're there to help.

After the scan

We'll ask you to wait in the waiting room while we make sure we have everything we need. This only takes a few moments and once done we'll let you know so you can go home or back to work.

We'll then have our specialist reviewers analyse your results and they will report back to your doctor within 1-2 days of doing the test.

If you have any questions at all, let us know.



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NZMI 
imaging

Creating answers. Not questions.