

Care Gram

Thyroid Uptake and Scan

What Is a Thyroid Uptake and Scan?

You have been scheduled for a thyroid uptake and scan. This test is used to diagnose problems with the thyroid gland. Images of your thyroid gland are taken using a special type of machine called a “gamma camera.” A small amount of radioactive material is used during this test. There are no side effects or pain with this test.

When Is My Test?

- Your test has been scheduled for _____.
- Contact Licking Memorial Central Scheduling at (220) 564-4722 **at least 24 hours prior to your test if** you are unable to come for testing as scheduled.

How Do I Prepare for My Test?

- Let your doctor know if you are pregnant, breastfeeding, or have any medicine allergies
- Ask your doctor if you need to stop taking your thyroid medicine. Normal protocol for thyroid medication withdrawal is:
 - 3 days for antithyroid medication – propylthiouracil, methimazole, and carbimazole
 - 10 days for triiodothyronine (T-3)
 - 3 weeks for thyroxine (T-4)
 - 3 months for amiodarone
- Bring a list of all medicines you are taking, including over-the-counter, herbal, and homeopathic with you to testing
- No iodine imaging contrast for 8 weeks prior to the test

What Should I Expect During My Test?

Part I

You will report to the Radiology Department for the first part of your test. You will be given a capsule with a small amount of radioactive iodine to take by mouth. You then can leave for 4 hours as instructed by Radiology.



**Licking Memorial
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Part II

After your return to the Radiology Department, an uptake will be obtained to measure your thyroid gland. This will take 10 minutes.

Part III

You will be asked to return to the Radiology Department the next day for the second part of your scan. Uptake and image will take 45 minutes.