

# Information about your Nuclear Medicine Thyroid Scan – 2 Day Protocol



Your doctor has referred you for a Nuclear Medicine Thyroid Scan.

It is important that you read the enclosed booklet **“Information about your Nuclear Medicine Test”** with this leaflet.

## What is a Thyroid Scan?

A Thyroid Scan is a simple test that lets us take pictures of your thyroid to see how well it is working.

## Do I need to do any special preparation before the Thyroid Scan?

Some medication can affect your scan so please read the following information carefully.

- If you are currently taking **Thyroxine** (also called **T4** or **Levothyroxine**) you should stop this 4 weeks before your appointment.
- If you are currently taking **Liothyronine** (also called **T3**, **Tetroxin** or **Tri-iodothyronine**) you should stop this 2 weeks before your appointment.
- If you are currently taking **Carbimazole** or **Propylthiouracil (PTU)** you should continue to take this as prescribed.

If stopping your medication is problematic please phone the department for advice. You can continue to take all other medication, and eat and drink as normal.

**Please Note: This scan requires you to attend for two days. Details of the first appointment (along with directions to our department) are enclosed. The second appointment date and time is given below:**

Day 2:-	Date:-	Time:-
---------	--------	--------

## Your Thyroid Scan

### Day 1

We will give you an injection of a small amount of radioactive liquid into your arm. You can then leave the department and return home.

### Day 2

Please return to the department at the date and time given above. We will take pictures of your neck area.

## **How long does the scan last?**

Scans typically last up to 30 minutes.

## **Your appointment**

If you can't make this appointment please tell us as soon as possible – we can arrange another appointment.

## **Pregnancy and Breastfeeding**

Where possible we try to avoid performing Thyroid scans on patients who are, or may be pregnant. Therefore please contact the department if you are

- Pregnant
- Breast-feeding
- You think you could be pregnant

**If you are booking transport through the Scottish Ambulance Service please contact them as soon as possible and advise them you will be in the department for approximately 1 hour on both appointment days.**