

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 you are currently taking **Amiodarone** please call us to discuss whether you need to stop taking this medication before your scan.

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.

## **What does a Thyroid Scan involve?**

A Thyroid scan involves an injection of a small amount of radioactive liquid into your arm. After a wait of approximately 20 minutes we will then take pictures of your neck area.

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

Scans typically last between 10-20 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.**