

**Kaiser Permanente Medical Center
Department of Nuclear Medicine
Oakland, California**

THYROID SCAN

This study is in 2 parts. The first part involves a quick radioactive pill on the first day with the scan taking place the second day, usually 24 hours later. **You must be off thyroid hormone medication for at least 4 weeks prior to the study. You must be off Tapazole for a minimum of 5 days prior to this test. You must be off PTU (Propylthiouracil) for a minimum of 3 days prior to this test.**

Please come to the Nuclear Medicine Department located on the second floor of the main hospital building (directly above the cafeteria) approximately 5 minutes prior to your appointment to allow time for registration.

1. On the first day do not eat for at least 1 hour before coming to the Nuclear Medicine Department for your test dose. Water is permitted.
2. A small tasteless dose of radioactive iodine will be given to you to swallow in pill form. **There are no side effects of after effects from ingesting this test dose.** (Even if you have an allergy to iodine compound you will not be affected).
3. **The technologist will then tell you what time you are to return the next day for the scan.**
4. On the second day you may eat before your appointment if you wish.
5. **IMPORTANT: Wear loose clothing around your neck** (no turtlenecks) as the doctor will wish to examine your neck.
6. First a small detector probe will be positioned over your neck to count the radioactivity in your thyroid gland. The detector probe will then be positioned over your knee for a background count.
7. Next, a gamma camera will take pictures of your neck while you are lying on an imaging table. The doctor may examine you after the pictures, and then you are finished.

IMPORTANT: It is very important that you keep both of your appointments! If you are unable keep your first appointment, please telephone the Nuclear Medicine Department at **(510) 752-6210**, as soon as possible, so that we may utilize the time for other patients and cancel the iodine that will be ordered for your test. You should **not** miss the second appointment.

If you need information regarding parking or directions in locating the hospital please call us at **(510) 752-6210**.