

## THYROID SCAN – INFORMATION SHEET

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are going to have a thyroid scan using technetium-99m pertechnetate. This chemical (known as a "radiotracer") is simply injected into a vein in your arm.

You don't need to fast before the examination. The product is not allergenic. The amount of radiation produced by this molecule is very low (13  $\mu$ Sv per MBq of tracer injected), but some precautions do need to be taken:

- Women of childbearing potential and who are not taking effective contraception need to take a test to ensure they are not pregnant if they are on the second part of their menstrual cycle. Otherwise, you should have an appointment immediately after you get your period.
- For the thyroid function examination to produce good results, you need to stop taking any thyroid hormone-based medication, such as CYNOMEL and LEVOTHYROX (15 days before the examination for Levothyrox). Your endocrinologist will tell you what to do.
- You should not undergo any examinations that involve the injection of iodinated contrast medium (CT scans, radiological scans) for 8 weeks prior to the examination.
- If you are on treatment with CORDARONE, please contact us.
- You should not eat any fish, shellfish or seafood before the examination.

Several images will be taken 20 minutes after the injection. You will lie on your back on an examination table while the images are taken, which involves the use of a detector that is placed just in front of your thyroid. You do not need to hold your breath. Taking the images takes around 20 minutes.

Allow one hour in total for the examination.

Your doctors will be happy to give you any more information that you may need