

## DATSCAN® - INFORMATION SHEET

Sir, Madam,

With your consent, you are to undergo an ioflupane DATSCAN® scintigraphy scan using iodine-123. This substance (known as a radiotracer), which is very slightly radioactive (4.35 mSv), is injected into a vein in the arm. It will bind to certain nerve endings in the brain (nigrostriatal pathways) and allow images to be taken.

The radiotracer will be ordered specifically for you in advance. It is very expensive (around 700 euros), but covered by health insurance. However, **if you are unable to make your appointment, you MUST contact us four days beforehand to enable us to cancel the order**, as this product cannot be stored.

Please bring any previous exam results relating to your illness.

- Women who could potentially be pregnant and are not on effective contraception must take a pregnancy test if in the second part of their cycle, or make an appointment to undergo the exam immediately after the onset of their period.
- **You may eat and drink as normal before the exam.** To protect your thyroid, you will be given a **prescription for Lugol**, an iodine preparation in drop form, to be taken two days before the exam, on the day of the exam itself, and for two days afterwards.
- You must stop taking **Sertraline (Zoloft®)** at least one week before the exam, as this medication interferes with the results.
- The DATSCAN® injection has no side effects. However, the iodine contained in the iodine preparation (Lugol) intended to protect your thyroid gland can potentially cause an allergic reaction. **If you are allergic to iodine, please contact us.** You will be given a different substance.

The images will be taken **around four hours after the tracer has been injected**. During that time, you may leave the department and return to your activities.

The images are taken using an open camera. You will be required to lie down for around 50 minutes.

Your doctors will be available to provide additional information if you wish.