

# Thyroid scan

## PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET



### Your appointment:

Date: .....

Time: .....

Location: .....

Please see our website for more branch details.

### Duration of examination

This examination takes approximately 45 minutes.

### Please bring with you:

- > Your request form
- > All previous relevant imaging
- > Medicare and any Healthcare cards

### Payment on the day of the examination is requested.

For more information on this procedure please call one of our branches.

For more information regarding Benson Radiology please visit:

[bensonradiology.com.au](http://bensonradiology.com.au)

### What is a thyroid scan?

This scan is used to assess the function of the thyroid gland.

### Patient preparation

If you currently take thyroid medication, please contact us prior to your appointment as you may be required to cease this for a period of time prior to your examination.

If you have had a CT scan or x-ray with contrast injection within the last six weeks, please inform the receptionist at the time of making your appointment as a thyroid scan cannot be performed in this period.

### What will happen during the examination?

Upon arrival, a technologist will explain the procedure and then a small injection containing radioactive tracer will be administered into a vein in your arm by a nuclear medicine specialist.

You will then be required to wait 20 minutes while the tracer is taken up by your thyroid.

After the 20 minutes you will be taken into the examination room and asked to lie on the examination bed. You will be required to keep still for a few minutes at a time, while the special gamma camera takes images of your neck. This will take approximately 10 minutes.

### Are there any risks?

This examination has no associated side effects.

### Pregnant, breast feeding patients and carers of infants

This examination is not suitable for pregnant women.

Breastfeeding mothers may undergo the procedure, but will need to cease breast feeding for 12 hours after the scan. Breast milk should be expressed and discarded during this period. Breast feeding may resume after the 12 hours.

For some examinations it may be required to avoid prolonged close contact with infants and young children. If you have any queries regarding this please speak with our technical staff on the day of your appointment.

### After the examination

A nuclear medicine specialist will review and report on your imaging once complete.

These results will be communicated to your treating doctor in accordance with your doctors preferred communication method (eg hard copy film or electronic).