Thyroid Uptake and Scan

About the test
It is a test of your thyroid gland. The thyroid gland is the “thermostat” that speeds up or slows down most body functions. You will be asked to swallow a capsule that contains a small amount of radioactive iodine. There are no side effects from taking this capsule.

It helps your doctor find problems of the thyroid gland. This information will help your doctor determine your medical treatment.

The iodine capsule you swallow to allow your thyroid gland to be seen in this test contains a very small amount of radioactivity. It will naturally go away on its own. If you are breastfeeding, pregnant or think you might be, tell the radiologist or technologist before the scan.

To prepare for the test
• If you are taking thyroid medicine, you may need to stop it for a time before this test. Talk to your doctor to see if your medicine needs to be stopped and how long before the test you need to stop it.
• This scan cannot be done if you are currently taking Amiodarone (Cordarone, Pacerone, Nexterone). Talk to your doctor if you are taking this medicine.
• This scan cannot be done if you have had another iodine contrast test within 6 weeks of this appointment.
• You will not be allowed to eat or drink anything for 2 hours before your test time. You will not be able to drink or eat until 2 hours after you take the capsules. Please check with your doctor about any food or medicine restrictions for this test.
• Bring a list of all of your medicines. Be sure to include any prescription or over the counter medicines and any vitamin or herbal supplements you take.

During the test
You will have 3 appointments for this test.

1st appointment
• You will get more instructions and have a chance to ask questions.
• You will take the capsule.

2nd appointment
• This appointment is usually 6 hours after you take the capsule.
• The amount of radioactivity in your thyroid gland will be measured. This part of the test takes about 15 minutes.
3rd Appointment

- This appointment will take place the day after your 2nd appointment.
- The amount of radioactivity in your thyroid gland will be measured again.
- Pictures of your thyroid will be taken with a camera-like machine.
- This will take about 75 minutes.

It is very important to be on time for these appointments so the test is accurate and to prevent any inconvenience to yourself or others.

**A thyroid scan is an important test. Please ask your doctor or technologist if you have any questions.**

### Your test dates and location

**Your 1st appointment is scheduled at**  ____________________ on ____________________.

**Your 2nd appointment is scheduled at**  ____________________ on ____________________.

**Your 3rd appointment is scheduled at**  ____________________ on ____________________.

**Your test is located at:**

- **University Hospital, 410 West 10th Avenue, Columbus OH 43210**
  
  Take the Doan Hall elevators to the 2nd floor. Report to radiology registration to the right of the elevators. If you need to change your appointment, call radiology scheduling at 614-293-4333.

- **East Hospital, 181 Taylor Avenue, Columbus OH 43203**
  
  Enter the main hospital entrance and stop at main registration on the 1st floor of the tower. If you need to change your appointment, call radiology scheduling at 614-293-4333.

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**Talk to your doctor or health care team if you have any questions about your care.**

For more health information, contact the Library for Health Information at **614-293-3707** or e-mail health-info@osu.edu.

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