

Nuclear Medicine – I-123 Uptake & Scan / I-131 Hyperthyroid Therapy (Post Consultation)



To Schedule: (319) 861-7778

Questions about your procedure: (319) 398-6050

701 10th Street SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403-1292
319 398-6011

What is a Nuclear Medicine?

Nuclear medicine uses radioactive materials to help diagnose and treat a wide variety of diseases and disorders. Nuclear medicine provides unique information about the human body and its function. Nuclear medicine helps providers diagnose diseases to make treatment more effective. It is one of the best diagnostic tests for the early detection of certain types of heart disease, thyroid disease, tumors, bone changes, etc.

Thyroid uptake/scan is used to evaluate thyroid function as well as anatomic structure of the thyroid gland. The uptake is used to assess thyroid function to determine over or under active thyroid glands. The scan is used in conjunction with the uptake when there is a reason to suspect thyroid nodules, goiters or other masses.

Preparation:

- If taking Levothyroxine (Synthroid) discontinue for a minimum of 4 weeks prior to exam. Discontinue Cytomel, Methimazole (Tapazole), PTU for 1 week prior to exam.
- No X-Ray contrast within 6 weeks prior to your exam.
- No multivitamins with iodine for 1 week prior to your exam.
- No kelp, shellfish, Ensure or Boost within 1 week prior to your exam.
- No Amiodarone for at least 4 weeks prior to your exam, consult your cardiologist prior to discontinuing.
- Do not eat or drink (except for water) for 4 hours prior to the first of two appointments.
- Consult your provider before stopping any medication.

Procedure:

- For the first appointment, you will take a radioactive iodine capsule. You will be asked not to eat or drink anything (except for water) for 2 hours after taking the iodine capsule.
- For the second appointment, there is no preparation. You will be asked to return 5 hours after taking the iodine capsule. During this time, you can leave the hospital.
- When you return, you will sit in front of the Nuclear Medicine camera for two sets of images lasting 1 minute each.
- You will then be placed on the imaging table on your back for approximately 40 minutes while another set of images are being taken.

PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:
A PHOTO ID TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY
A LIST OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS YOU ARE TAKING

Parking:

Park in the Mercy Medical Center 10th Street Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 10th Street and 8th Ave. SE. Proceed to **Ground (G)** level and follow the signs to “Radiology (X-Ray),” also located on **Ground (G)** level.

Procedure Results:

A radiologist will review the images shortly after the exam is completed. A written report will be sent to the provider who ordered your exam. Your provider will discuss the results with you. Results will typically be available for your provider within two business days of the exam. Results will also be sent to your MyChart account.