Thyroid Scan

A thyroid scan checks your thyroid gland for problems. The thyroid gland is located in your neck. It speeds up or slows down most body functions. You will be asked to swallow a pill that contains a small amount of radioactive iodine for this test. There are no side effects from taking this pill.

This test has 3 parts. You will be given 3 appointment times. **Arrive on time for each part of the test.**

If you have any allergies to medicines, foods or other things, tell the staff before the test.

If you are **breastfeeding, pregnant or think you might be**, tell the staff before the scan. For **women of childbearing years**, a pregnancy test is done before the scan**.**

To Prepare

- Do not take multi-vitamins that contain iodine for 4 weeks before the test.
- If you are taking thyroid medicine, ask your doctor when you need to stop taking it before the test.
- Do not eat or drink anything, including water, after midnight before the test and for 2 hours after you take the pill.
- Ask your doctor if you should take your medicines the day of the test. If so, take with sips of water only.

Your Appointments
Part One:

Your test is at _____morning/afternoon

           Time

on _____ _____, 20_____.
           Month   Day   Year

You are told about the test and given a pill to swallow.

Part Two

Your test is at _____morning/afternoon
                  Time

on _____ _____, 20_____.
           Month   Day   Year

About 6 hours later, you return to have a small blood sample taken from your arm to measure the amount of radioactivity in your thyroid gland. You may wait at home between parts one and two.
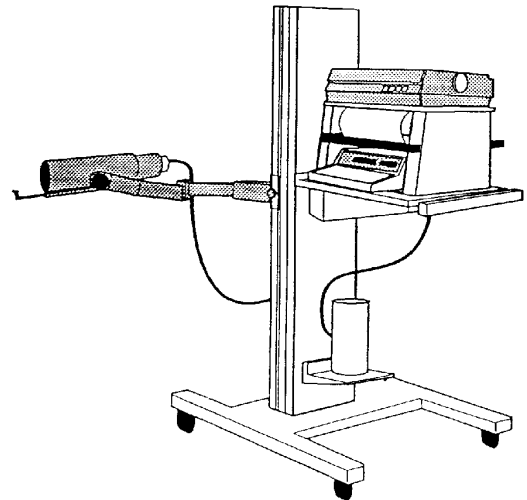
Part Three

Your test is at _____morning/afternoon
                  Time

on _____ _____, 20_____.
           Month   Day   Year

The next day, you have blood taken again. A scan of your thyroid gland is done. You will lie down for the scan. This takes about 1 hour.

Test results are sent to your doctor. Your doctor will share the results with you.

Talk to your doctor or nurse if you have any questions or concerns.