

## Parathyroid scintigraphy

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### Purpose of the study

The aim of the study is to locate an enlarged or hyperfunctioning parathyroid gland.

### Preparations

- If you are taking **thyroxine medication** (Thyroxin) for hypothyroidism, you need to stop taking it for **three weeks** (21 days) prior to the study. (Please consult your treating physician to ensure there are no contraindications for discontinuing the medication. If it is not possible to stop the medication, please contact our department. In that case, an alternative method can be used for the study.)
- The medication used to treat hyperthyroidism, such as **methimazole** or **propylthiouracil**, must be discontinued for **one week** (7 days) before the study.
- **Cinacalcet** should be discontinued for **two weeks** (14 days) before the study
- **Vitamin D supplements** should not be used for **one week** (7 days) before the study
- You may eat and drink normally before and after the study.
- If you are allergic to iodine, suspect that you are pregnant or are breastfeeding, please inform the attending nurse. In such cases, certain precautions need to be taken.

### Study protocol

The first radiopharmaceutical is administered as an injection into the vein of the forearm, after which a two-hour wait is required for the substance to accumulate in the thyroid gland. During this time, you are free to move around the hospital premises. After two hours, the second radiopharmaceutical is administered in the same way, and the imaging begins five minutes later. The imaging is performed in a lying position, and you can wear your own clothes during the procedure.

### Duration of the study

The imaging usually takes one hour, but if necessary, additional images may be taken to obtain the most accurate results possible. It is advisable to allocate approximately 4 hours for the entire study, including the waiting time.

### After the study

A physician will provide a statement on the study, which will be directed to the clinic or department that made the referral. The referring unit will take care of any further actions.

### Notice

You will be administered a small amount of radioactive material that radiates within you, therefore you should keep a certain distance to children and pregnant women for the next 24

hours. After 24 hours the radioactive material has exited your body and you are no longer radiating.

Please do not wear any perfume when coming to the department as it may cause severe symptoms to patients with asthma or allergy!

### **Contact information**

Department of nuclear medicine and PET  
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Phone number 02 627 7361  
from Monday to Friday between 7.00–14.30

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