

I-131 Thyroid Uptake 24-hr.

Department of the test: Nuclear Medicine (NM)

Purpose of the test:

To determine the level of activity of the thyroid gland (i.e. overactive, underactive, or normal), assist the doctor in calculating the dose of radioiodine to be used in the treatment of overactive thyroid (hyperthyroidism) or thyroid cancer.

Notes before the therapy:

1. You will receive some radiation in the test.
2. Some medications and food will interfere with the uptake result. Thyroid hormones (eg, thyroxine/T4), antithyroid drugs, iodine-containing food (eg, kelp, seaweed, multivitamin) and medications (eg, iodinated contrast, amiodarone, betadine) should be avoided for 4 weeks.
3. Nothing to eat or drink 3 hours before the test.

On the day of the test:

1. Please check in first at NM service counter.
2. NM physician will ask you a few questions of medical history.
3. You will be given a capsule of radioactive iodine tracer by NM pharmacist. Please don't eat or drink for 3 hours after taking medication.
4. Measurements will be taken by NM technologists on the second day. Please don't move during these measurements.

Total duration of the test: 10 minutes on 2 separate visits.

Adverse drug effect of the test: very rare.