

About Your Parathyroid Scan

What You Need to Know and Do

A parathyroid scan is an exam to determine how healthy your parathyroid gland is. The parathyroid gland regulates the uptake of calcium in your body.

A small amount of radioactive material will be injected into your body for this test.

What happens after my test?

- Your doctor will discuss your test results with you during a follow-up appointment or over the phone.

What should I do before my parathyroid scan?

There is no special preparation necessary before your scan. You can eat and drink as normal.

What happens during my test?

- The exam will take 2 to 3 hours.
- You will be injected with a small amount of radioactive material (called a tracer) through a vein in your arm.
- The tracer will circulate in your body for about 15 to 20 minutes. Then the first set of images over your neck and chest will be taken. The first set of images will take about 30 to 45 minutes.
- You will have a break that will last from 30 minutes to an hour.
- A second set of images over your neck and chest will be taken 2 hours after your initial injection.