

Parathyroid SPET and low dose CT

The purpose of this examination is to locate an enlarged or overactive parathyroid gland.

Reserve approximately 4 hours to the examination.

If you are pregnant or suspect that you are pregnant, call the number listed in the arrival instructions. This examination is generally not carried out during pregnancy.

Preparation for examination

You can eat and drink normally on the day of the examination. Do not eat foods containing iodine, such as seaweed and sea fish, for four weeks before the examination.

Take a break in medication as followed:

- Thyroxin should be discontinued 2 weeks prior to the examination
- Tyrazol should be discontinued 2 days prior to the examination
- Mimpara should be discontinued 2 weeks prior to the examination

Your attending physician will give information about the medication.

X-ray examinations with iodine-containing contrast agents should not be done 4 weeks before the examination.

Examination

An intravenous catheter will be placed into your arm and a small amount of radioactive tracer will be administered via the catheter. The tracer contains radioactive iodine that is taken up by your thyroid gland.

After 2 to 3 hours, a scan will be performed. You can spend the waiting time as you wish.

On the scan, you will receive an injection of another tracer that is taken up by the thyroid and parathyroid glands. Scanning takes about 40 minutes.

The examination includes also CT scan (computed tomography). It describes the structure of your body and enables to locate any changes accurately. Both scans are made at the same time.

You will be asked to lie on your back for the scans. Scanning is painless.

After the examination

In the 2 to 3 days following the examination, drink plenty of water and empty your bladder more frequently than you normally would. This is to make sure that the radioactive tracer leaves your body.

After receiving the radioactive contrast agent, do not hold a child or remain in prolonged close contact with children for the remainder of the day.

If you breastfeed, you must stop breastfeeding after the contrast agent is administered.

Other things to note

Please take your health insurance card (Kela card) or identity card with you.

Your attending physician will inform you of the test results. Please contact the unit responsible for your care if you do not already have a scheduled appointment or a phone consultation with your doctor.

You will not be charged for the examination separately. Cancel the appointment if you cannot come. If you do not cancel, you will be charged a fine.