



## Nuclear Medicine Iodine-131 Whole Body Scan

### 核醫碘-131全身掃描(英文)

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Based on a clinical evaluation, your doctor may recommend a whole body scan of nuclear medicine iodine-131 to determine if thyroid cancer has recurred or spread to other parts of your body after treatment. Hopefully, we could provide an in-depth explanation of nuclear medicine iodine-131 to help you understand more about it.

The purpose of the whole body scan of nuclear medicine iodine-131 is to detect whether there is post-treatment recurrence or spread of a well-differentiated thyroid cancer to other parts of your body.

#### Procedure for the scan

- Stop using thyroid hormone for at least four weeks before the scan.
- Follow the instruction given by the pharmacist regarding taking iodine-131 capsule or solution.
- After taking iodine-131, we would schedule an appointment for scanning, usually 3 days apart; the pharmacist will send you home for the period and ask you to return as scheduled.
- Patients who have just taken a therapeutic dose of iodine-131 will not need to take an additional diagnostic dose of iodine-131; a scan would be arranged directly.
- At the time of your scheduled scan, please wait momentarily in front of the scanning room. The scan usually takes 30 minutes.

#### Things to keep in mind

- Notify our medical staff if you are pregnant; if so, the procedure cannot be done under your condition.

- If you are currently breast-feeding your baby, stop it immediately because iodine-131 could be secreted through breast milk.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Do your best to remain still during the scan. There are no special precautions; complications like allergy and dry mouth are rare.

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若有任何疑問，請不吝與我們聯絡  
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