

MIBG Scan

What is it?

An MIBG Scan is a test that is used to detect various tumours of the neuro-endocrine System. It provides information that may not be obtained by other tests such as X-rays or CT Scans.

What do I need to do before the procedure?

Make sure you remember to bring any previous films or reports to the appointment. Wear warm comfortable clothing. You will also need to:

- **Medications** - take your medications as normal
- **Advise of pregnancy or breastfeeding** - let the service know if you are pregnant or breastfeeding
- **Stay hydrated** - it is important to keep your fluids up for the test

What will happen?

At your first appointment, you will meet with the Nuclear Medicine Doctor who will ask you about your medical history and medications. Your injection will then be ordered.

When your injection is received, you will need to take a medication called Lugol's Iodine for 3 days prior to your injection. This medication will protect your thyroid gland from taking-up the radioactive iodine in the injection.

At the next appointment, a small injection of a radioactive tracer (MIBG) is given into a vein in the arm. This injection can affect your blood pressure and heart rate. This will be monitored for 30 minutes after the injection. The injection takes about four hours to circulate in your body. You do not have to wait at the service during this time.

When you return, you will have pictures taken on a special camera. This will take up to 30 minutes. You need to lie still during the pictures and breathe normally. You will be required to return for some more pictures for the next two to three days. This can take up to two hours each day.

What can I expect after?

There are no after-effects from having a parathyroid scan. The small dose of radiation in the injection is about the same as you would get from a CT scan.

Once it is finished, you can go home. You are able to drive immediately after the test. Your results will be sent to your GP or specialist.

Adapted from Liverpool Hospital Department of Nuclear Medicine and PET

This information is to be viewed by someone who has received a diagnosis from their doctor. It is not designed to be used to diagnose a condition or as a substitute for ongoing medical care

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