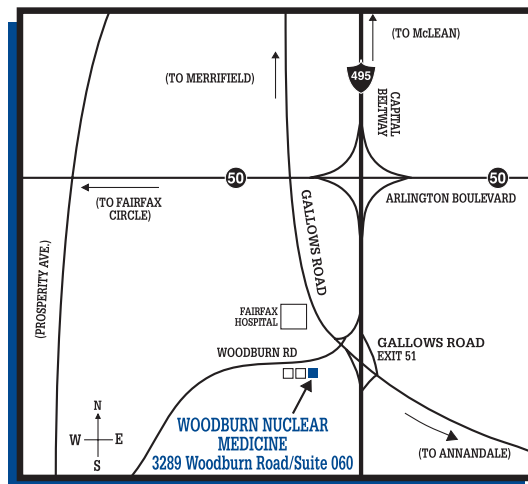


Welcome to Woodburn Nuclear Medicine!

Your physician has referred you for a Thyroid Scan. Our goal is to provide the best possible medical care for you and your family. Patient care is our top priority. Our staff is available to answer questions and ensure your comfort before, during, and after your exam.

Our facility is conveniently located and is wheelchair accessible.



Directions:

Route 495 South: Exit 51 (Gallows Road)
Proceed straight across Gallows Road onto Woodburn Road to the first building on the left.

Route 495 North: Exit 51 (Gallows Road) Turn left onto Gallows Road then left onto Woodburn Road to the first building on the left.



**Woodburn Nuclear Medicine
Metro Region PET Center**

3289 Woodburn Road • Suite 060
Annandale, VA 22003
Phone: (703) 698-0666 • Fax (703) 573-6120
www.woodburnmed.com

A Guide For Patients

Thyroid Scan Imaging at Woodburn Nuclear Medicine



Patient Name: _____

Appointment Date/Time: _____



**Woodburn Nuclear Medicine
Metro Region PET Center**

Phone: (703) 698-0666

What is a Thyroid Scan?

A thyroid scan makes use of the thyroid gland's ability to concentrate radioactive iodine to generate pictures of it. The radioactive iodine releases tiny bursts of energy that can be detected by nuclear medicine cameras.

At Woodburn Nuclear Medicine, Iodine (I-123) is the most commonly used tracer to perform thyroid scans.



Thyroid Scan



At Woodburn Nuclear Medicine, we perform Thyroid Scans and other nuclear medicine studies in a comfortable, outpatient environment.

How long will this test take?

After swallowing I-123 in the form of a capsule, you will return 4-6 hours later for the first scan. The scan takes approximately 30 minutes. You will need to return the following morning for a measurement of activity in the thyroid gland, which typically takes about 10 minutes.

How should I prepare for the Thyroid Scan?

You must avoid all seafood for 72 hours prior to the test and you must fast for 4 hours prior to swallowing the iodine capsule. If you are taking thyroid medications, check with your doctor whether they should be taken. Certain medications interfere with this study.

What if I might be pregnant?

Generally, nuclear medicine tests are not performed during pregnancy. All women of child-bearing age will be asked to affirm that they are not pregnant. Exceptional cases will be discussed with your referring physician.

What will I experience during the scan?

During a thyroid scan, you will lie down on a flat table and the camera will be placed over your neck and upper chest. You must lie still while the scanner acquires pictures of your thyroid gland.

Why is this test usually performed?

A thyroid scan provides information about the size, shape, location and function of the thyroid gland. The scan can aid in evaluating whether the thyroid gland is hyperactive or hypoactive. It is also used to assess thyroid cancer.

Will I be exposed to radiation?

The radiation in a thyroid scan is less than that received in two chest x-rays. The tiny amount of radioactive iodine used for the thyroid scan is rapidly eliminated from the body.

Are there any reactions to the injections?

The radioisotope used for the thyroid scan is non-allergenic and produces no adverse reactions.

When can I resume normal activities?

You can resume normal activities immediately after the scan is finished.

When will my doctor receive the results?

Your final report will be faxed to your doctor's office within 24 hours of your scan. It is often sent on the same day as your test. A copy will also be mailed to your physician within 48 hours.



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Metro Region PET Center**

If you have any questions regarding your test, please call 703-698-0666.