



Nuclear Medicine  
(Outpatient)  
Thyroid Scan

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**Welcome:**

We would like to welcome you to OSF Saint Francis Medical Center Nuclear Medicine Department.

**When to Come, Where to Park, and Where to Go:**

Please arrive at the medical center 30 minutes before your test or 45 minutes before if any lab work also needs to be done.

**What to Bring with You:** Nothing.

**Prep:**

Certain medications will interfere with the Thyroid scan results. The medications will be discussed with your order physician office prior to scheduling this scan. To assure that you are not currently taking these medications.

**Family:** Family or friends are asked to stay in the radiology waiting area per our department policy. This is to ensure the privacy of other patients in accordance with HIPAA privacy act.

**Pregnancy Policy:** It is the policy of OSF Saint Francis Medical Center to conduct pregnancy tests on female patients having a CT, MRI, Nuclear Medicine, PET, Angiography, or X-ray exams of the abdomen area. This policy is to avoid potential harm to an unborn baby as a result of the radiation or medications given during the exam.

A pregnancy test is required prior to the procedures listed above and should be ordered by your physician if you are a female:

- Between the ages of 12 and 55 and have not had a hysterectomy
- Less than 12 years old and are having menstrual periods
- Over age 55 and having menstrual periods

The pregnancy test must be done within three days prior to your exam at any OSF Saint Francis facility. Home pregnancy tests are not acceptable.

If you know that you are pregnant please notify your physician.

**Medications:** Follow instructions given by your doctor's office.

**Allergies:** There are no side effects from the injection of the radioactive isotope. It is not a drug or a dye.

If you have any allergies to latex, call your doctors office. If your doctor wants the test to be completed you'll need to be pre-treated prior to the test date. The office will order the pre-medications for you to take for the pre-treatment

**Procedure Instructions:** Patient will be injected with a Radioisotope into a vein in the arm; this is then allowed to circulate for 10-15 minutes. Images will then be acquired lasting 30-40 minutes.

**Test Results:** Your study will be read by a Nuclear Radiologist. The radiologist will give a report that will be typed and sent to your doctor.

You can make plans with your ordering doctor on how to receive your test results (such as follow-up doctor appointment, calling the doctor's office, etc.)

**After Test Instructions:** None