

PATIENT INFORMATION

Patient's Name: _____

You have an appointment in the Nuclear Medicine Department on:

Date: _____ **Time:** _____

Please arrive 10 minutes early. This gives you time to check in. Please bring with you photo identification and your BC CareCard (personal health number).

Please do not bring your children with you unless you bring someone to care for them while you are having the test.

If you are not able to keep your appointment, please call **604-806-8008** as soon as possible. Please give us at least 24 hours notice so we can use your time for someone else. When you call, we will give you another date and time for your test.

Things you need to know

Why am I having this test?

Your doctor wants to check for a tumour in your parathyroid gland called an adenoma. These tumours are not cancer (they are benign). Your parathyroid gland is in your neck. The parathyroid glands help control the break down of calcium in the body.

What do I need to do before the test?

★ Are you allergic to latex? Pregnant? Breastfeeding? Please tell us★

You do not need to do anything special to prepare for this test. You may eat and drink as usual and take your medicines.

What happens during the test?

This test has two parts and takes about 3 hours to complete.

1. In order to see your parathyroid gland clearly, we need to give you a radioactive material called 'tracer' into your blood stream. To do this, we use a needle to insert a small flexible tube into a vein in one of your hands or arms. We inject the tracer into the vein. This is called an intravenous injection (*intra* meaning 'into' and *venous* meaning 'vein', commonly called an IV). We remove the intravenous once we finish injecting the tracer. Once we have given you the tracer, we take a set of pictures or images. This part takes about 45 minutes.

Now we need to wait for the tracer to work its way through your body. You may wait in our waiting room or go to the cafeteria. **You must return within 2 hours for the second part.** We tell you what time to be back in the department.

2. We take another set of images. This part takes between 45-60 minutes.



How you want to be treated.

What can I expect after my test?

There are no side effects.

We send your test results to your doctor within 5 working days after the test is completed. If your doctor does not have your results within two weeks, please ask your doctor to contact us.

If you are planning to travel within 72 hours of this test, please tell the Nuclear Medicine receptionist. We will give you a letter that says you have been given a small amount of radioactivity for this test.