

PARATHYROID SCANS

What are they used for?

The parathyroid glands are normally a little smaller than a grain of rice, and there are four of them in your neck, very close to your thyroid. The scan is used to assess the activity, size, shape, and location of parathyroid tissue, as well as the presence of parathyroid adenomas.

What is involved?

There are two parts to a Parathyroid scan. 30minutes after injection of a radiotracer, images are taken of your neck to show the initial uptake of the radiotracer by parathyroid tissue. 2-3 hours later, the radiotracer will wash out from your neck and become trapped in your parathyroid, allowing for more clear pictures. At this time, a second set of images are taken of your neck and chest which take about 30 minutes. If your parathyroid glands are enlarged or extend into your chest, it may indicate hyperparathyroidism or a parathyroid adenoma.

How should I prepare?

There is no preparation for a parathyroid scan. Like all nuclear medicine scans at TeleMed, Parathyroid Scans are bulk billed and so it is important that you bring your Medicare card with you on the day.