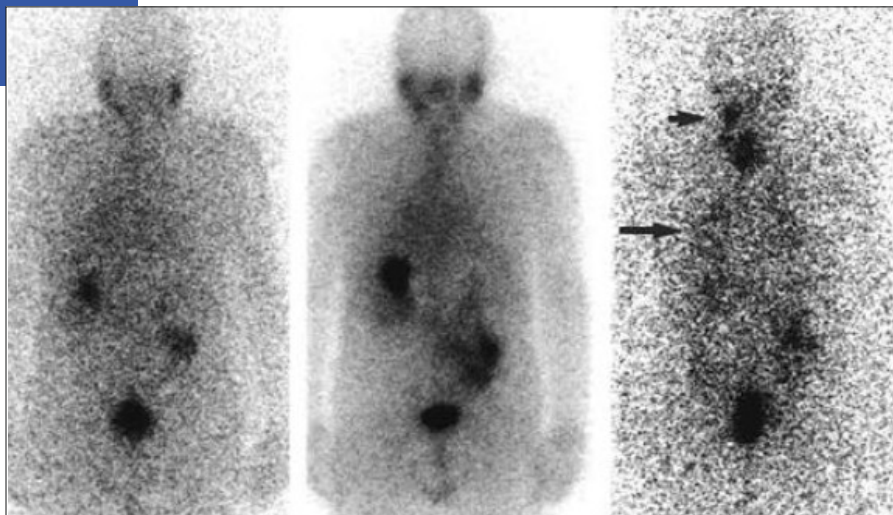




Understanding I-131 Whole Body Scan

Ghaziabad: Plot No 14 & 15, Block P, Sector 23, Sanjay Nagar, Ghaziabad
Near ALT Bus Stand, Phone No.: +91-9217244110

✉ info@molecularit.com 🌐 www.molecularit.com



What is an I-131 Whole Body Scan?

I-131 Whole Body Scan is a nuclear medicine test that involves a small, controlled dose of radioactive iodine (I-131) that is used to assess thyroid tissue or thyroid-related disease in the body. The cells of your thyroid absorb iodine, so with this tracer, it's easier to identify where the iodine is absorbed. In the evaluation of the distribution of the tracer, images are taken by a gamma camera.

Why is it Performed?

I-131 Whole Body Scan is done when a patient has thyroid-related diseases, including thyroid cancer treatment that uses iodine-131. It evaluates iodine-avid regions in the thyroid or aids in evaluating for the possibility of recurrence when clinically appropriate. The results are analyzed in conjunction with the medical history, other imaging, and diagnostic evaluation procedures.

Preparation

- Follow the recommended low-iodine diet if advised.
- Thyroid medicines may need to be stopped.
- Inform the medical team about current medicines, supplements, and recent iodine-containing medications or contrast studies.
- Bring previous thyroid scans, treatment records, and relevant reports.

Procedure

I-131 is given to patients according to a specific procedure (called the scan protocol), typically as a capsule or an oral preparation. The tracer distributes and focuses in the iodine-absorbing tissue for the appropriate time. Later, the patient is placed on a special machine (gamma camera) which takes images of the patient's body. Additional images are obtained, if necessary, to better evaluate uptake in areas, and the patient stays as still as possible during imaging to ensure clear results.

Important Instructions

- Follow the low-iodine diet and medication instructions provided by your doctor.
- Tell the team about any recent CT scan with iodinated contrast or other iodine-containing medication.
- Maintain hydration as advised.
- Follow instructions regarding frequent urination and bladder emptying.
- Remain still and relaxed during imaging.

Safety Precautions

I-131 Whole Body Scan requires a proper quantity of radioactive iodine, which has been injected in a secure and regulated way. It is performed by nuclear medicine professionals so that the safety regulations related to radiation are followed and obtained through a procedure is sufficient and contains minimal radiation exposure.

When to Seek Medical Attention?

Inform a healthcare professional if the patient experiences unusual or persistent symptoms after the examination. Seek prompt medical attention for severe difficulty breathing or swallowing, significant swelling, severe weakness, or other sudden concerning symptoms. Follow all post-scan instructions provided by the nuclear medicine team. At Molecular Diagnostics and Therapy, the I-131 Whole Body Scan is performed under trained specialist supervision using appropriate nuclear medicine protocols, with careful attention to accurate imaging, radiation safety, and patient comfort.