

## **Follow-up Testing for Thyroid Cancer Patients**

To assess whether all thyroid cells have been destroyed, two principal diagnostic tests are used, a total body scan, and a thyroglobulin blood test. These tests need to be done periodically, and it is necessary to have the levels of TSH (thyroid stimulating hormone) elevated during the test, which can be achieved either by withdrawing a patient from thyroid hormone, or with the use of recombinant TSH. On the day that the scan is done, a **blood test** for TSH and the **thyroglobulin** protein should also be obtained. As it can take a few days for the test results to become available, patients who have been withdrawn from thyroid hormone may go back on T3 (Cytomel) while waiting for the all results to come back, whereas patients who received recombinant TSH simply continue on their thyroxine.

The **thyroglobulin** and **TSH** blood tests will be ordered in the hospital computer system, therefore you will not need a laboratory requisition.

### **Withdrawal Protocol**

Stop Cytomel (liothyronine or T3) 2 weeks before test

DAY 1: Radioactive iodine tracer dose is administered

DAY 2: Total body scan is performed and **repeat blood test for thyroglobulin is done following scan**

### **Thyrogen Protocol**

DAY 1 (Monday): Thyrogen® injected intramuscularly (0.9 mg).

DAY 2 (Tuesday): Thyrogen® injected intramuscularly (0.9 mg)

DAY 3 (Wednesday): Radioactive iodine tracer dose is administered

DAY 4 (Thursday):

DAY 5 (Friday): Total body scan is performed and **repeat blood test for thyroglobulin is done following scan**

**The critical part of both these protocols is the Thyroglobulin blood test**

**DO NOT FORGET TO GET THIS TEST DONE**

**The Drug Information number for Thyrogen is 02246016**

**Once you have made an informed decision about which testing modality you would like to proceed with, please sign and date the attached agreement form and return it to Dr. Drucker's office by fax to (416) 361-2669. Once we receive this form, your follow up testing will be scheduled.**

For more information about these tests, see [www.mythyroid.com](http://www.mythyroid.com)

**FOLLOW-UP TESTING FOR THYROID CANCER PATIENTS AGREEMENT**

I, the undersigned, understand and assume responsibility for completing the two components of the diagnostic testing scheduled for follow up of my thyroid cancer.

The two parts of the diagnostic tests are 1) **the Thyroglobulin blood test done on the same day as the total body scan** and 2) A total body nuclear medicine scan.

Please indicate which protocol you wish to use:

- Withdrawal protocol
- Thyrogen protocol

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Patient's Name (please print)

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Patient's Signature

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Date

Fax this form to (416) 361-2669 when completed. Dr. Drucker's office will contact you thereafter with the dates and instructions for your follow up testing.

# **IMPORTANT!!!**

**TAKE THIS NOTICE WITH YOU ON  
THE DAY YOUR TOTAL BODY SCAN  
IS BOOKED AS A REMINDER FOR  
YOUR BLOOD TEST. THE  
THYROGLOBULIN BLOOD TEST IS A  
CRITICAL COMPONENT OF THE  
FOLLOW UP TESTING WE HAVE  
SCHEDULED FOR YOU.**

PLEASE BRING THIS NOTICE WITH YOU ON THE DAY YOUR TOTAL BODY SCAN IS SCHEDULED AND USE IT AS A REMINDER TO DO THE **THYROGLOBULIN BLOOD TEST** IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF YOUR TOTAL BODY SCAN.

THE BLOOD TEST IS ORDERED THROUGH THE TORONTO GENERAL HOSPITAL'S COMPUTER SYSTEM (YOU WILL NOT NEED A PAPER REQUISITION) AND IS PERFORMED IN THE DIAGNOSTIC TEST CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, EATON WING.

IF YOU DECIDE TO HAVE THE BLOOD TEST DONE IN ANOTHER LAB, YOU WILL NEED A REQUISITION FOR 1) THYROGLOBULIN AND 2) ANTI-THYROGLOBULIN ANTIBODIES