

Thank you for choosing Yale New Haven Hospital

We are looking forward to providing you with exceptional care.

DaTscan imaging is used to assess areas of the brain that coordinate movement. This examination is used in conjunction with other tests to determine if a movement disorder is a parkinsonian syndrome or another disorder with similar signs and symptoms. **This is an all-day procedure that is broken up into 3 appointments.**

Yale New Haven Hospital Preparation for this Exam:

Before Arriving for Your Exam

- Please arrive **15 minutes** early to check in.
- Children accompanying patients during visits:
 - Unfortunately, we cannot routinely supervise your children during your imaging study. We believe that you are best served when we can provide 100% of our attention to you. Therefore, we encourage you to make childcare arrangements or to bring a responsible adult with you to supervise your children.
- The injection for this exam is specifically ordered for you and is very expensive, if you are unable to keep your appointment or have any questions, please call us at 203-688-1011 option 7.
- There are no restrictions in your diet required prior to this test.
- Please bring a complete list of all current and newly prescribed medications.
- Please leave your jewelry and valuables at home and wear comfortable clothing.
- Although we do not anticipate any delay in your scheduled appointment, we recommend that you bring a book, magazine or music player to help pass any time you may need to wait.

After Arriving

- Upon arrival, a technologist will explain your procedure and answer any questions you may have.
- ATTENTION Females (ages 10 to 55)
To ensure Radiation Safety, the following is YNH Policy on pregnancy test for this Radiology exam.
 - PARENTS: To ensure Radiation Safety, YNH Policy requires that a pregnancy test is performed on all females (ages 10 to 17) prior to the start of the exam that is scheduled.
 - Females (ages 18 to 55) may either sign a waiver stating that there is no chance that you could currently be pregnant, or have the choice to take a pregnancy test prior to the exam

During Your Exam

- This is an all-day procedure and is broken into 3 appointments.
- 1st appointment: you will be given a medication to drink called Lugol's. This medication will prevent the iodine in DaTscan from going into your thyroid and must be given 60 minutes prior to receiving the DaTscan injection.
- 2nd appointment: The DaTscan injection will be injected through an intravenous (IV) line into your arm.
- To allow the DaTscan to distribute throughout your body, you will need to wait approximately 4 hours before the imaging test can begin. You will be free to leave after injection and return for the 3rd appointment.
- 3rd appointment: For the imaging, you will be asked to lie on a table and an imaging technologist will position your head in a headrest. A strip of tape or a flexible restraint may be placed around your head to help you to not move your head during the scan.
- A camera will be positioned above you and you must remain very still while images are taken. The scanner will be very close to your head, but will not touch your head. Imaging takes approximately 40-60 minutes.

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Exam Duration

- Appointment 1: 15 minutes, Lugol's drink (to protect your thyroid, must be taken 60 mins prior to receiving DaTscan injection).
Wait 60 minutes
- Appointment 2: 15 to 30 minutes, DaTscan Inj.
4hr break (you may leave and come back)
- Appointment 3: 40 to 60 minutes, Imaging

After Your Procedure

- There are no restrictions placed on you after this procedure. You may eat and drive as normal.
- Your exam will be interpreted by a Radiologist (a doctor who is an expert in understanding these exams). A report will be sent to your provider, who can review the results with you.

*For more general information on what to expect during your upcoming radiology exam.

Visit this link to [DaTscan Patient Information](#) from [GE Healthcare](#)

***Yale New Haven Hospital thanks you for
choosing us to be part of your healthcare team.***