



Preparing for your CT Scan

A CT Scan, is a radiology exam that uses computerized x-ray equipment to produce 3-Dimensional imaging of your anatomy.

When the test is ordered: IF YOU HAVE ALLERGY TO CONTRAST, PLEASE NOTIFY STAFF PRIOR TO SCHEDULING THE APPOINTMENT!

Day of the test:

- Women of childbearing age will be asked about pregnancy status.
- You may take necessary medication with water.
- Before your examination, a CT technologist will explain the procedure to you and answer any questions you might have.
- Wear comfortable clothing w/o metal clips or zippers. A sports bra is recommended.

During the examination:

- Most CT Scans are very quick, the exam is completed in a few minutes.
- You may be asked to remove personal accessories, such as eyeglasses, dentures, hair accessories, jewelry, hearing devices, etc., as those items can interfere with the scan.
- Once in the scan room, a CT technologist will position you on the table.

Type of exams:

CT scan without IV contrast:

- No preparation needed for this exam.
- Multiple x-rays will be taken in rapid succession.

CT scan with IV contrast:

- Do not eat or drink anything 2 hours prior to the exam.
- You will receive contrast through an IV. This enables detailed imaging of the area being studied.
- IV Contrast may briefly make you feel nauseous, warm, and/or cause a metallic taste in your mouth.
- If you begin to itch, feel short of breath, or are otherwise uncomfortable, let the technologist know immediately.
- All patients over 60 years old and/or have a history of diabetes must have bloodwork done prior to the scan.