



Computed Tomography (CT) Scan

What is a CT Scan of the head?

The term "computed tomography," or CT, refers to a computerized x-ray imaging procedure in which a narrow beam of x-rays is aimed at a patient and quickly rotated around the body, producing signals that are processed to generate cross-sectional images, or "slices." These slices are called tomographic images and can give a clinician more detailed information than conventional x-rays. Once a number of successive slices are collected, they can be digitally "stacked" together to form a three-dimensional (3D) image.

Why do I need a CT scan?

A CT of the may be ordered for a variety of reasons. We commonly use this form of imaging to evaluate complaints of snoring, congestion, ear and/or breathing problems.

The CT scan can be used to show:

- Structural abnormalities such as a deviated septum, nasal polyps, or concha bullosa
- Sinus infection
- Inflammatory conditions
- Tumors or masses in the nasal and sinus cavities
- Assist with surgical planning by defining the anatomy inside the nose and sinuses

After the CT scan is completed, your provider will have immediate access to the images and will go over them with you in the exam room.

What to expect during a CT scan

- No special preparation is usually required, though you will be asked to remove jewelry
- The CT scanner will rotate around you to capture detailed images.
- It is crucial to remain still during the scan to ensure clear images.
- In some cases, a contrast dye may be used to enhance certain structures' visibility. This may involve a dye injection or swallowing a contrast agent.
- The procedure is painless, and our experienced staff will ensure your comfort throughout the process.

