



PREPARING FOR YOUR CT SCAN

BEFORE YOUR SCAN

Do not eat or drink anything other than water, or suck or chew gum, mints or lozenges two hours before you arrive. (sometimes CT exams are modified into a contrast exam, so it's best to keep patients NPO – es)

Most medications can be taken within 4-6 hours of your scan unless otherwise instructed.

Wear comfortable clothing that has no metal. You will be asked to remove all metal objects including snaps, zippers, buckles and jewelry prior to your scan.

Let us know if you are or possibly might be pregnant. If you are breastfeeding, talk to your doctor before your scan.

Please let the CT Technologist know if you are diabetic, or have any allergies.

DURING YOUR SCAN

Our CT technologist will bring you from the waiting room into the CT imaging suite and help you get properly positioned and comfortable on the scanner table.

Often a special "contrast material" called dye is needed to help make specific organs stand out to better show the areas being examined. Contrast can be given through an IV (injected in a vein using a small needle), by mouth or by enema depending on what area of your body is being scanned. IV contrast is used to help highlight your blood vessels, liver, urinary tract, gallbladder or liver. You may have a warm sensation or a metallic taste in your mouth during the injection. Oral contrast is used to help highlight your stomach or esophagus and bowels. You will be asked to drink the contrast liquid 1 – 1 ½ hours before the scan. Contrast material might also be inserted through an enema to highlight the intestines. Again, please be sure to drink plenty of water following your scan to flush the "dye" from your body.

During the scan, you will be exposed to a minimal amount of radiation, however, we believe the benefits of the information provided by the scan outweigh the small potential risk. Please let us know if you have any concerns about this exposure.

The scan takes 15-60 minutes depending on the area of the body that is being scanned. Typically, scan results are available in 48 hours.

Thank you for allowing us to participate in your care.
Please call 1-866-796-5433 with any questions.