



Patient Information Service

Having a CT scan at Southend Hospital



Southend University Hospital **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust



CT scans are special cameras which can take pictures of the inside of our bodies.



Your GP or hospital doctor will tell you why you need a scan.



If you are already in hospital the staff will take you for your scan.



If you are coming from home you need to tell the receptionist when you arrive.



When the radiographer is ready they might ask you to put on a gown. We have a changing area if needed.



You must take off any metal that you are wearing. This could be jewellery or a zip on your clothes.



You may be asked to have a drink of water. This helps us to get a better picture.



Sometimes you need to have a tiny tube put in your hand. This is so we can put special dye in your body to help the camera see better.



When everyone is ready you will need to lay down on the scanner.



The radiographer will tell you what to do.



You will need to lie down. A cloth belt will be put around your body. This helps you to lie still on the trolley.



You will slide through the scanner on the trolley. The scanner makes a noise. When you go into the scanner it is very close to your face.



This test takes about five minutes but you may be in the room for up to 30 minutes.



If you would like your carer to stay with you they will have to stand behind the screen when your scan is taken.



When the camera is ready the radiographer will go behind the screen and take the pictures.



Scans do not hurt, do not worry.



Once the scan has been taken you can get dressed and go home or back to the ward.



Your doctor will look at the pictures and tell you if you need more treatment.



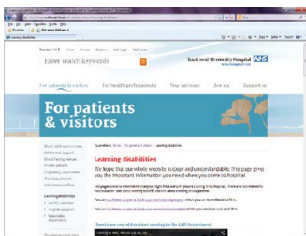
If you need extra help to have a scan just let us know.



We have a learning disability nurse at the hospital who can also give advice to help things go well.



You can contact her at the hospital on **01702 435555 ext 6448.**



More information for people with learning disabilities can be found on the Trust website www.southend.nhs.uk



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If this leaflet does not answer all of your questions, or if you have any other concerns please contact the learning disabilities nurse specialist on: **01702 435555 ext 6448**.

www.southend.nhs.uk

For a translated, large print or audio tape version of this document please contact:

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