

CT Guided Drainage – A Patients Guide

How does a CT (Computed Tomography) Scanner work?

X-rays pass through your body as you slowly slide through the scanner, producing cross sectional images.

Who does your Scan?

You will be scanned by a Radiographer who is specially trained in this area.

Before your Scan

The Radiographers will check through your safety questionnaire prior to your scan when you are consented for the procedure. For most examinations you will need to change into a gown and remove jewellery. It may be possible to avoid this if you attend in clothing that is completely free of metal fittings, zips, clips, buttons etc.

The examination commences with a CT scan to obtain sectional images of the body. If a drainage is performed it requires only a local anaesthetic, and the complete test takes approximately 30 minutes.

Please bring with you a dressing gown, slippers, etc as you will be required to rest on a ward for a few hours after the test. Regretably, the ward will be unable to accommodate relatives, who will either have to wait elsewhere, or return to pick you up. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries

During the Scan

The Radiologist will explain the procedure and gain your consent before the examination starts and you should feel free to ask questions. Some examinations may require an injection of a special iodine based dye. This can be helpful in providing maximum diagnostic information from your test. The Radiographer will explain this to you if required for your examination. You may also be asked to follow swallowing and/or breathing instructions for short periods of time depending on the body part being examined. You should not drive for 1 hour following this injection.

Who interprets your Scan

A Radiologist will interpret carry out the procedure and your scan. This is a doctor that has specialised in medical imaging.

Results

The outpatient department or your referring clinician will tell you when you go back for your results

If you have any questions please contact the CT & MRI Reception Desk on 01702 385036 or Fax 01702 385921