

Fasting CT Scan with Contrast – 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

Please have NOTHING TO EAT OR DRINK FOR 4 HOURS prior to your appointment time. If you are diabetic and have concerns regarding this, please contact the diabetes nurses on 01702 385072.

You will be asked to complete a contrast media safety questionnaire. The Radiographers will check through this with you 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.

On arrival you will be given a drink (mainly water) to help show abdominal structures. **There will usually be a pause of at least 30 minutes while the drink is digested.** The scan itself takes approximately 15 minutes, and you should have no side effects. An injection in the arm may be required, this iodine containing fluid (contrast agent) enhances structures with a blood supply and obtains additional diagnostic information. You should not drive for 1 hour following this injection.

During the Scan

The Radiographer will explain the procedure to you before the examination starts and you should feel free to ask questions. You may also be asked to follow swallowing and/or breathing instructions for short periods of time depending on the body part being examined

Who interprets your Scan

A Radiologist will interpret 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

Questions? **CT &MRI Reception
Desk**

Telephone: **01702 385036**
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