

CT Scan with IV contrast injection – 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. If you are having your abdomen or pelvis scanned you may be asked to drink some water or an aniseed flavoured drink when you arrive. 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 scan itself takes approximately 15 minutes, and you should have no side effects. An injection in the arm will 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.

No preparation is required for this examination

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

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