



PATIENT INFORMATION

Radiology Department Information about CT Scans for in-patients and ward staff

Patient Details

Name.....Date of Birth.....

Hospital number..... Ward.....

Date/time of planned procedure.....

Preparation.....

ID label

Ward staff – please note

For this appointment it is necessary for the patient to be prepared as follows:-

- The patient may require a **working venflon**; the size required depends on the speed that the contrast needs to be injected, which is not the same for every scan, below is a rough guide;

Standard CT requires 20G pink or 22G blue

CT angiograms require 18G green

CT heart/ thoracic aortas require 16G grey

- Patients should remove any removable metal from the area being imaged.
- All prescribed medication should be taken as normal **but** if the patient is taking **Metformin**, please inform the CT department on ext. 55641.
- For some scans **oral prep** is required. There are 3 main preps:
 - 1) 700mls of water,
 - 2) 15mls of gastrografin diluted in 700mls of water,
 - 3) 2 day prep: this involves gastrografin being given over a 2 day period.

We will ring and let you know if any prep is required as this varies with each patient. Please let the **patient eat drink and use the toilet as usual**, unless otherwise requested.

In addition

- Patients' current notes must be available at the time of the scan.
- Patients coming to the department on trolleys may need their escort to stay with them throughout the examination, depending on their clinical condition. It is also useful if these patients come down with their slidy sheet.
- We do try to keep to our scheduled appointment times but sometimes delays are unavoidable.

What is a CT Scan? - Information for the patient

The CT scanner is a machine that uses X-rays to give images of the head and body. You will be asked to lie on a couch. The radiographer will make sure that you are in the correct position and that you are comfortable. You will be asked to lie still whilst the scan is being done. When the machine is scanning, the couch will glide in and out of the scanner gantry (the round opening). **The scanner is not enclosed and you do not go into a tunnel.** As part of the scan, we will often give you an injection of contrast medium (a fluid that shows up on x-ray). The contrast provides more information to give you more conclusive results. The contrast goes into the blood via a cannula or venflon which the ward should put in before you arrive in CT. If you have any questions please ask the staff on the ward who can ring CT if required.