

CT Scan (Computed Tomography)

If you have a cold, flu, fever or are feeling ill, contact the Bookings Office at 519-631-2030, ext. 2004 prior to coming for your test.

What is a CT Scan?

A CT scan is also known as computed tomography or CAT scan. CT scans are used to look inside the body. A CT scan is a type of x-ray that creates pictures of your internal organs in more detail than a regular x-ray.

What will happen during the CT scan?

You may be asked to wear a hospital gown. Remove any metal objects, such as jewelry that might interfere with the machine.

Some CT scans require you to drink a liquid called “contrast medium” before the scan. You will take this by mouth.

Some CT scans require you to get your contrast medium intravenously (IV) that will be inserted into a vein in your arm before you have your scan done. The contrast will be injected through the IV during your CT scan. The contrast medium given through the IV has a slight risk of an allergic reaction. If you experience hives, itchiness or swelling in your throat during or after your CT scan, tell the technologist or doctor right away.

You will lie on a narrow table during the exam. The table slides through the round opening of the machine.

During the scan the technologist is in a shielded room to operate the CT scanner. The technologist will be able to see and hear you at all times and talk to you through the intercom. CT scans are painless.

How to prepare for a CT Scan?

- Do not eat or drink before the test (as instructed by the technologist).
- Check in early (as instructed by the technologist).

What will happen after the CT Scan?

The radiologist will send the CT report to your physician. The results will be given to you by your physician.

