



AFTER THE CT SCAN

After the scan you can return to your normal routine. If you were given a contrast material, you may be asked to wait for a short time before leaving to ensure that you feel well after the exam. After the scan, if there are no medical restrictions, you can drink fluids and eat as normal and return to your routine activities as before.

Please note that while we will try our best to complete your scan in the allocated time slot, there may be some unforeseen delays, especially due to emergencies happening in a busy hospital.

WHAT ABOUT THE RESULTS?

A radiologist interprets these images and sends a report to radiology pacs system. The results of the scan will be conveyed to you by your referring doctor. After the report is made ready, we will record your CT images onto a DVD/Films which can be collected from the radiology reception.



PLEASE SCAN FOR THE LOCATION



Mankhool, Kuwait Road, Al Mankhool - Dubai

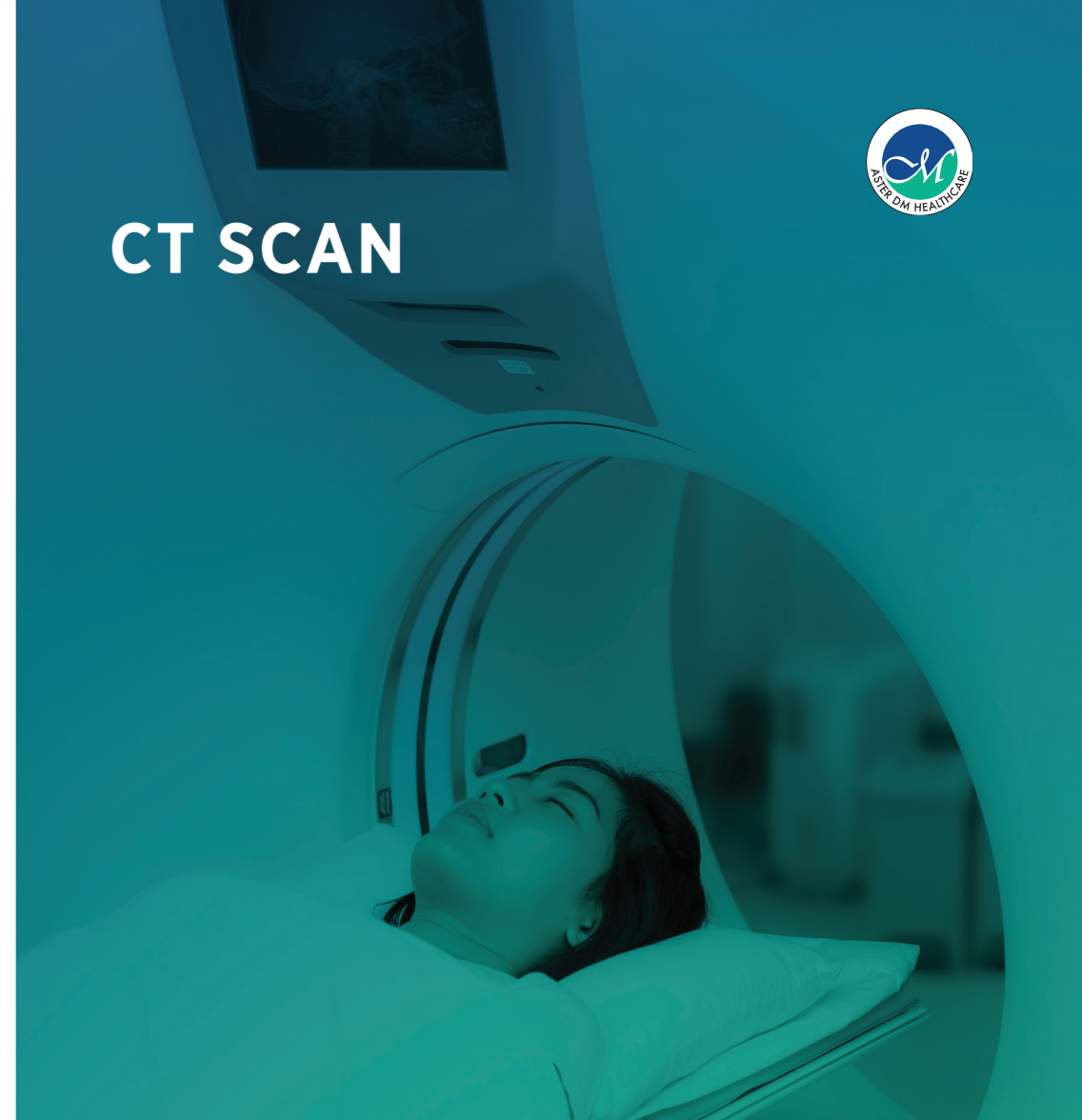
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CT SCAN



Digital Version



WHAT IS A CT SCAN?

A Computerized Tomography (CT) scan combines a series of X-ray images taken from different angles and uses computer processing to create cross-sectional images of the body area. CT scan images provide more detailed information than plain X-rays do. A CT scan can be used to visualize nearly all parts of the body and is used to diagnose disease or injury as well as to plan medical, surgical or radiation treatment.

CT scans have been used for several decades now to aid disease detection and treatment and is proved to be a safe, fast and very effective imaging tool.

WHAT IS CONTRAST MATERIAL?

In certain cases, the radiologist may recommend you receive a special dye called contrast material to highlight the areas of body being examined. The contrast material can help emphasize

blood vessels, intestines or other structures.

Intravenous contrast is a colourless liquid given by injecting usually into an arm vein. You may experience a feeling of warmth during the injection and a metallic taste in your mouth. The contrast material is excreted from the body through the kidneys. So, it has to be made sure that your kidneys are functioning properly- these needs checking your blood for Serum Creatinine value or similar.

If this result is not available already, we need to send your blood for this test before the CT scan and only if the value is within normal range we will proceed with the study.

Other types of contrast material may be given:

- By mouth. If your oesophagus or stomach is being scanned, you may need to swallow a liquid that contains the

contrast material. This drink may taste unpleasant and will be administered for approximately one hour.

- By enema. A contrast material may be inserted in your rectum to help visualize your intestines. This procedure can make you feel bloated and uncomfortable.

REACTIONS TO INJECTED CONTRAST MATERIAL

In certain cases, the contrast material can cause some reaction. Most reactions are mild and result in a rash or itchiness. In rare and exceptional instances, an allergic reaction can become serious. Tell your doctor if you've ever had a reaction to contrast material.

CT SCAN – ANY POTENTIAL RISKS? RADIATION EXPOSURE

During a CT scan, you're briefly exposed to ionizing radiation. The radiation from CT scans has not been shown to cause

long-term harm, although there may be a very small potential to increase your risk of cancer.

When used in a clinical setting, CT scans have many benefits that outweigh this small potential risk. Radiologists are doctors specialized in imaging and use the lowest dose of radiation possible to obtain the needed information from CT.

We have the most modern, state-of-the-art CT machine, which is very fast and at the same time causes less radiation exposure.

RISK IN PREGNANCY

Please inform us if you're pregnant or likely to be pregnant. Although the radiation from a CT scan is unlikely to injure your baby, we may need to take precautions and also consider another type of exam, such as ultrasound or MRI.



DIABETES AND METFORMIN

Diabetic patients taking Metformin may have additional risk to intravenous contrast. Please inform Radiology reception if you are diabetic or if you take a drug called Metformin.

PREPARING FOR A CT SCAN

Eating and drinking restrictions:

If you are not going to get any contrast material, you can eat and drink as normal. If intravenous or oral contrast is needed, you will be asked to

- Not eat any solid food for only 4 hours prior to the scan.
- Plain water or clear juice can be taken as normal during this time and till the scan. Tea, coffee, milk etc. should not be taken.
- There is no need to avoid drinking water or clear juices before the scan and it is much better to be normally hydrated.

SCANS UNDER ANAESTHESIA OR SEDATION:

In some patients especially children, the scan may have to be done under a sedative or a general anaesthetic to keep the patient calm and still. This will need some special preparation including additional food restrictions.

If your scan is planned under GA or sedation kindly follow the referring doctor's instructions also complete the PAC clearance.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT ON THE DAY OF THE SCAN?

Please report to the radiology reception at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled time. If you are late or if you cannot make the appointment, please inform to us in advance.

Previous imaging reports if any have to be brought and you should be accompanied by a bystander. You are likely to meet a radiology nurse and a radiographer who will assist you with necessary preparations, get consent forms signed by you and if needed, place an intravenous cannula in one of your arm veins for injecting contrast.

Depending on which part of your body is being scanned, you may be asked to:

- Take off some or all of your clothing and wear a hospital gown.
- Remove metal objects such as a belt, jewellery, dentures and eyeglasses, which might interfere with image results.

DURING THE CT SCAN

CT scans are painless and, with newer machines, take only a few minutes.

The whole procedure typically takes about 30 minutes.

CT scanners are shaped like a large doughnut standing on its side. You lie on a narrow, motorized table that slides through the opening into a tunnel. Straps and pillows may be used to help you stay in position.

If you are to get intravenous contrast, your arm cannula will get connected to a mechanized syringe loaded with the contrast material and this will automatically inject the contrast at the desired time.

You may hear buzzing, clicking and whirring noises during the scan.

The technologist in a separate control room can see and hear you. You will be able to communicate with the technologist. The technologist or a recorded voice may ask you to hold your breath at certain points to avoid blurring the images.