

### **Tell us what you think!**

We always appreciate your feedback, so please don't hesitate to tell us what you think using our patient feedback forms.

If you have any further queries, please talk to the radiographer, doctor or our administration team, or contact us on: 1800 456225

### **My Notes**

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*Please feel free to ask the radiographer if you have any other questions*



To book an appointment:  
Please fax your referral to: (01) 531 3425  
Or call us on: 1800 456225

For information on scan locations and pricing please visit our website: [www.globaldiagnostics.ie](http://www.globaldiagnostics.ie)

Global Diagnostics, Rockfield Medical Campus, Balally, Dundrum, Dublin 16.



[www.globaldiagnostics.ie](http://www.globaldiagnostics.ie)



X-Ray • Ultrasound • MRI • CT • Dexa

## **CT Patient Information**



### **What is a CT scan?**

A CT scan is carried out by using a special X-ray machine, which produces an image of a cross-section, or slice, of the body. The CT scanner consists of a 'doughnut-shaped' structure, or gantry, about two feet thick with a hole in its centre, through which you pass while lying on a couch.

### **Is a CT scan safe?**

CT scanning involves the use of X-rays. CT scans consist of a special type of X-ray and referring doctors are very careful to consider whether the benefits of the scan outweigh the risks. If you think you might be pregnant, please inform us before your appointment.

Many CT examinations involve you having a special dye injected into a vein to increase the quality of information obtained from the scan. The injection usually causes nothing more than a warm feeling passing around your body. The radiographer will explain any risks associated with this contrast and answer any questions you may have. If you are breastfeeding, please inform us before your appointment.

### **Do I need to prepare for the CT scan?**

You may be given instructions which will relate to the part of the body to be scanned, for example, for some abdominal scans patients are asked not to eat anything for a few hours before the scan. **It is very important that you follow this preparation.**

### **What happens during the CT scan?**

You will be taken into the CT room and made comfortable lying on the CT couch. Straps and pillows may be used to help maintain the correct position and keep you still during the examination. The couch will be moved slowly to position the part of your body under investigation within the 'doughnut'.

The radiographers will go into the control room but you will be able to talk to them via an intercom, and they will be watching you and listening all the time.

You will only hear slight buzzing, clicking and whirring sounds.

During the scan, you may be asked to hold your breath or not swallow. However, if you feel any discomfort or apprehension, please tell the radiographer immediately.

### **How long will it take?**

Usually the actual scan takes no longer than 15-20 minutes. You may be required to stay in the department longer either before the examination to drink contrast, or after for 30 minutes to ensure that you are feeling well.

### **Is the CT scan painful?**

No the scan is not painful.



### **When will I get my results?**

The consultant radiologist will read your CT scan. Your doctor will receive the results with 48 hours of your exam being completed