

CT Information For Parents and Carers

Royal Manchester Children's Hospital
Division of Imaging



What Is A CT Scan?

A CT scan is a special kind of X-ray that produces pictures of the inside of your body. It can see areas of the head and body that cannot be seen by ordinary X-rays.

Preparing Your Child For CT

An information book is available in the department for your child to look at or read.

For Head CT –

Earrings, hair clips and bobbles must be removed.

For Body CT –

Your child should wear loose clothing without zips, press studs or other metal items as these will interfere with the X-ray. Your child may be asked to wear a hospital gown.

CT Contrast

Your child may need to have a drink of a special X-ray contrast, to outline the bowel for some body scans. You

may prefer to bring your child's favourite cordial to mix this with the contrast. A waiting time of one hour is necessary after the drink.

Your child may need an injection of a different contrast (X-ray dye) to show their blood vessels on the CT scan. If this is necessary, Emla (skin numbing cream) will be put on their skin where they will have the injection. The Emla cream will need to stay on your child's skin for approximately an hour to give it time to work.

Procedure For CT Scan

- The Radiographer will ask your child to lie on the scan table.
- The scan table moves in and out of the scanner several times.

- You will be able to stay with your child for the procedure, providing there is no risk that you are pregnant. If you are pregnant, we suggest you bring another member of your family with you, to be with your child during the scan instead.
- You will need to wear a protective apron.

Immobilisation

To help keep your child absolutely still and also to ensure they are safe and secure on the scan table we may use velcro bands and foam pads as 'seat belts'. Usually most scanning procedures are possible without sedation for children of four years and above.

Sedation

This may be necessary for more lengthy scan procedures, or for children who are unable to remain still for this. Your child will be admitted onto a ward for the sedation medicine and the CT scan will take place whilst they are asleep. They will remain on the ward after the scan until they are awake.

Females 12 Years and Above

For females who are 12 years and above, some CT examinations must be done within 10 days of the first day of their last period. A separate sheet explaining this, will be enclosed if this is necessary.

Risks and Benefits

Everyone is exposed to ionising radiation (for example from gamma rays from space, air travel, natural radiation from the ground) all the time. This is one of the causes of cancer and other illnesses. This test will give your child a small extra dose of ionising radiation. Your Doctors have taken this into account when asking your child to have this test, and believe that this the best test for you or your child.

Girls of 12 years and over will be asked to tell us the first day of their last menstrual period so that we can avoid giving radiation to an unborn baby unless it is absolutely necessary for the test to work. This is because the risk is slightly greater for unborn children.

You can get more information about the risks and benefits of X-rays from www.nhs.uk or www.hpa.org.uk. Go to the homepages and search for 'X-rays'.

No Smoking Policy

Please protect our patients, visitors and staff by adhering to our no smoking policy. Smoking is not permitted in any of our hospital buildings or grounds, except in the dedicated smoking shelters in the grounds of our Hospital site.

For advice and support on how to give up smoking, go to www.nhs.uk/smokefree.

Translation and Interpretation Service

It is our policy that family, relatives or friends cannot interpret for patients. Should you require an interpreter ask a member of staff to arrange it for you.

تنص سياستنا على عدم السماح لافراد عائلة المرضى او اقاربهم او اصدقائهم بالترجمة لهم. اذا احتجت الى مترجم فيرجى ان تطلب ذلك من احد العاملين ليرتب لك ذلك.

بماری یہ پالیسی ہے کہ خاندان ، رشتہ دار اور دوست مریضوں کے لئے ترجمہ نہیں کر سکتے۔ اگر آپ کو مترجم کی ضرورت ہے تو عملے کے کسی رکن سے کہیں کہ وہ آپ کے لئے اس کا بندوبست کر دے۔

ইহা আমাদের নীতি যে, একজন রোগীর জন্য তার পরিবারের সদস্য, আত্মীয় বা কোন বন্ধু অনুবাদক হতে পারবেন না। আপনার একজন অনুবাদকের প্রয়োজন হলে তা একজন কর্মচারীকে জানান অনুবাদকের ব্যবস্থা করার জন্য।

Nasze zasady nie pozwalają na korzystanie z pomocy członków rodzin pacjentów, ich przyjaciół lub ich krewnych jako tłumaczy. Jeśli potrzebują Państwo tłumacza, prosimy o kontakt z członkiem personelu, który zorganizuje go dla Państwa.

Waa nidaamkeena in qoys, qaraaboamasaaxiiboaysanu tarjumikarinbukaanka. Haddiiaad u baahatotarjumaankacodsoxubinka mid ah shaqaalahainaykuusameeyaan.

我们的方针是，家属，亲戚和朋友不能为病人做口译。如果您需要口译员，请叫员工给您安排。



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