

A Clearer Picture

What Is A CT Scan And How Does It Work?

A CT scan is a computerized x-ray that produces cross-sectional pictures of the head or body.

You will be placed on a narrow table which will move you slowly through the scanner. During this time a sequence of pictures are taken. It is important to be very still and hold your breath when asked to do so.

Some CT scans require an injection of a contrast media. This helps create a better picture of the body part that is being scanned. Other scans require drinking a special liquid before being scanned.



Where Is The CT Scan Done?

The CT scan is done in a large mobile unit parked near the emergency entrance of Unity Hospital. A tech will escort you to the unit from the x-ray department located inside the hospital.

How Will I Find Out The Results Of My CT Scan?

Your scan will be read by a radiologist and a report will go to your doctor. Your doctor will discuss the results with you and decide if any further testing or treatment will be necessary.

Preparations For Your CT Scan

CT Of Head Or Chest


Do not eat or drink anything after midnight before your scheduled appointment, unless advised otherwise by the x-ray department.

CT Of Spine Or Extremities

No preparation is required. If you have had x-rays of the area being scanned, please bring them with at the time of scan.

CT Of The Abdomen, Pelvis, Kidneys, Pancreas or Liver

You will receive a preparation package with complete instructions to follow. You will be required to drink a contrast material.

 **SPECIAL NOTE**

If you are pregnant, suspect you might be pregnant or if you have allergies, it is important to let your doctor and technologist know prior to the exam.



For Your Health

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