

PATIENT PREPARATION – CT SCAN

Patient's Name: _____

Arrive at the KGH Imaging Services Department on _____ at _____
Date Time

If you have not been notified of your appointment time within 2 weeks, please call 613-549-6666 Ext. 2306

Your doctor has scheduled you for a CT scan of the head or body. The study can last 15 to 30 minutes depending on the type of study you are having. You should allow 2-3 hours if you are having a body scan as you will be asked to drink oral contrast 1-2 hours before the scan. Oral contrast enables the Radiologist to distinguish bowel within the abdomen and pelvis. Similarly, intravenous (IV) contrast may be used to help enhance structures within the body. You are encouraged to drink extra fluids after having oral or IV contrast, provided you are not fluid restricted. Please bring a list of the medications you are presently taking.

Please CIRCLE the required preparation for this patient

CNS Head or Spine scan

No preparation is required. Fluids are encouraged and you should take all your medications. You may require intravenous contrast.

Neck, Chest and Extremities

No preparation is required. Fluids are encouraged and you should take all your medications. You may be asked to swallow oral contrast while having your chest scan. You may also require intravenous contrast.

Abdomen and Pelvis CT scan

You should have **no solid foods for 4 hours** before your scan but fluids are encouraged i.e. clear soup, tea, jello, coffee, juices and water. You should take all medications with water. You will likely be asked to drink 750 – 800 cc oral contrast before your scan. You may also require an injection of intravenous contrast media. Your appointment time will be 1 hour and 15 minutes before the start of your scan to allow time for the oral contrast to travel through your bowels.

Diabetic Patients

Patients with diabetes do **NOT** need to refrain from solid food for 4 hours. If possible, avoid solid food for 1-2 hours. If you are taking Metformin Therapy and will be having IV contrast there is no need to stop this medication until **after the scan**. You will be asked to stop taking Metformin or any of its derivatives (i.e. Avandamet, Glucophage, Glucovance, Glumetza, Glycon, Metaglip, Riomet, Janmet) following the injection of IV contrast for 48-72 hours. Please arrange with your family physician or alternate physician for evaluation of your renal function before restarting your Metformin medication. It is especially important for diabetic patients to drink plenty of water following an injection of IV contrast media.

NOTE:

- Please do not wear jewellery and dress in metal free clothing
- Oral contrast kits are available at KGH Imaging Services if you need to do oral contrast preparation at home.
- Please inform your doctor if you are allergic to IV contrast or have poor kidney function.
- Should there be any questions or problems regarding your scan please do not hesitate to call the Imaging Services Department at 613-548-2301.