



GREATER LANSING

CAT SCAN PREP SHEET –SPINE CT

What is a CT?

CT stands for computed tomography. CT uses x-rays to make a picture. A CT picture is frequently described as a “slice”, much like taking a slice out of a loaf of bread. CT’s can be performed on the head, neck, pelvis, abdomen, spine and extremities.

How is the scan performed?

You will lie on a table that moves into a doughnut shaped hole. As you lie still, the x-ray tube moves around you inside the doughnut shaped hole. It may take from 5 to 20 minutes to perform the actual procedure. For some procedures you may need to drink some material and/or receive an injection of x-ray “dye”. Be sure to inform the technologist of any allergies you may have. If you are a woman of childbearing age, and there is a chance you could be pregnant, please inform the technologist right away. Once the pictures have been reviewed, you may leave.

PLEASE BRING ANY PREVIOUS XRAYS OR CT SCAN RELATED TO YOUR EXAM WITH YOU TO YOUR APPOINTMENT.

What is the prep for my CT Scan?

You should have nothing to eat, drink, smoke or chew 4 hours before your exam time.

Depending on what your doctor is trying to determine, an injection of dye may be given at the time of the exam.

If you are diabetic or allergic to Iodine, please contact your doctor for further instructions.

How will I receive the results of my exam?

The radiologist will provide your doctor with a written report. Your doctor may then review the report with you.

What if I have questions?

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your procedure, please call us at 975-6382.

What if I need to reschedule my appointment?

If you need to reschedule your appointment, please call our central scheduling office at 975-2695.