

You are scheduled for a Computed Tomography (CT) exam **on:** _____ **at:** _____ **a.m./p.m.**

Location: McLaren Northern Michigan Petoskey Campus Imaging Services CT Department.

Registration: You will need to register 20 minutes prior to your exam. If you have been pre-registered, you will need to stop at registration as well to have your appointment activated.

Arrival Time: Please arrive 20 minutes before your scheduled scan time. This will allow the required time for registration.

Before your exam: We may require a GFR (lab test checking kidney function) within 30 days. If you do not already have one, we may be performing one before your exam.

Clothing: Depending on the body part you are having imaged, you may be asked to change into a gown. If you prefer not to change into a gown, you may wear clothing free of metal snaps or zippers.

Patient Preparation: In order to better evaluate the organs and vessels you may have an IV started in the vein of your arm to inject Iodinated IV contrast. Also, in order to visualize your abdomen and/or pelvis on the CT scan, you may be asked to drink an oral contrast (Barium). If instructed by your physician, please pick up the liquid oral contrast material at your doctor's office or the imaging department before the day of your appointment. If you cannot make it in to pick up the oral contrast before your appointment you may also come to the department 1 hour and 20 minutes before your appointment to drink the contrast material.

- You will need to drink 2 bottles of oral contrast over a 1 hour time span.
- Drink each bottle of contrast over a ½ hour period of time. Do not consume them all at once.

Some CT studies such as CTA (Computed Tomography Angiography) are done for arteries and/or veins only and DO NOT require oral contrast. CTA exams do require an IV started for IV administered contrast.

Diet: You should NOT eat anything for four (4) hours before your appointment EXCEPT TO TAKE MEDICATIONS, if needed.

- After the exam you should be able to go home and resume a normal diet and activities.

Please be sure to advise your doctor (and us) if you have a known allergy to iodine. We will also need to know if you are diabetic and taking the oral medication called Glucophage (Metformin hydrochloride). You will be asked to withhold this medication for 48 hours after the exam.

If you think you could possibly be PREGNANT please notify the doctor who ordered this exam and/or call the Imaging Services department at 231.487.3100. We may have to reschedule your test until we confirm a pregnancy or not.

Possible risks associated with the examination: Although rare, allergic reactions to the IV contrast can occur. They can be mild, moderate, to severe. Most reactions are mild and do not require treatment.

Exam Results: Your physician will contact you with the results of your exam in 3-14 days.

If you have any questions or need to cancel/ reschedule your exam, please call 231.487.3100 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Billing: You will receive two bills, one from McLaren Northern Michigan, charging for the "technical" portion of the CT procedure and one from Northern Imaging Associates, for interpretation of the CT. **If you have any questions or issues regarding the McLaren Northern Michigan insurance or billing**, please call McLaren Northern Michigan Patient Accounts at 231.487.4760 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. **If you have questions or issues regarding the Northern Imaging Associates insurance or billing**, please call 800.764.7297