

Getting a CT Scan With Contrast

(Computed Tomography)
Photo Preparation Book



This is the Radiology Waiting Room. There are a lot of fun things to do in this room while you wait!

The people in this room are waiting for pictures called X-rays, Ultrasounds, scans, MRI's or CT's (just like you!)



Next, you will go to one of the registration desks. The patient services representative will let the technologists know that you are here.



You will also get a special bracelet that tells everyone who you are. Then you will go back to the waiting room.



Next, a nurse or PCT (Patient Care Technician) will walk you from the CT waiting room to your very own “get ready” room. On the way, you will get to see how much you weigh and how tall you are!



Then, the nurse will ask you and the grown-up you brought with you some questions so they can get to know you better!



The CT camera is a special kind of computer that takes pictures of the inside of your body.

The camera is inside the circle. You might hear noises, but the camera does not touch you!



This is what a CT scan looks like!



The CT Tech will take your picture from the control room. They can see you through the window.

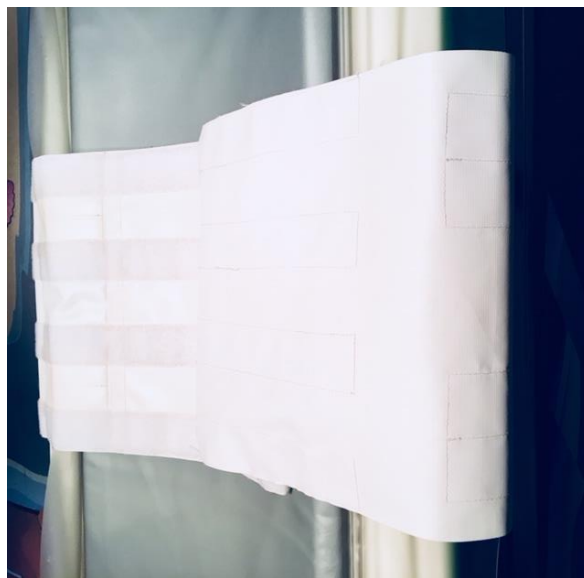
If you get nervous or have a question, just talk right into the camera

Your most important job while you are getting your pictures taken is to...**STAY REALLY, REALLY STILL!!**

Seatbelt



To help you stay really still, the CT Tech will give you two seat belts. One seatbelt will go across your legs and one seatbelt will go across your chest.





Did you know...

...you can watch a movie while your pictures are being taken? We have many movies to choose from!



Sometimes during your pictures, the camera will tell you to hold your breath. You only have to hold it for 5 seconds!

Let's practice.
Ready-Set-GO!
1-2-3-4-5

The doctor needs parts of your pictures to be very clear and bright.

Contrast is a warm liquid that goes into your body that lights up on the picture.

The contrast will make the inside of your body feel warm. Like you drank hot chocolate!

Can you tell which pictures are with contrast?



The contrast goes into your veins to get to the part of your body we need a picture of.

Veins are the blue lines under your skin that carry blood through your body.

An IV or special straw is a tiny flexible tube that a nurse places into your vein.



We understand that IV's can make you feel nervous.

Let's make a Coping Plan to help!

Ask your nurse about:

- Child Life Specialist
- Freezy Spray
- LMX (numbing cream)
- Buzzy Bee
- Comfort Positioning

Decide if you want to:

- Watch or look away
- Count 1-2-3 or not
- Sit on someone's lap or by yourself
- Take a deep breath
- Play a game
- Anything else that might help





When the camera is all done taking your pictures, the bed moves out of the camera and the CT technologist will help you off the bed.

You can choose a prize from the Treasure Chest!

Additional Support

If your child has any special needs or health issues you feel the doctor needs to know about, please call the Department of Pediatric Radiology at Children's to speak with a technologist or Child Life Specialist before the test. (412) 692-5512.

It is important to notify us in advance about any special needs.

Preparing your child beforehand, as well as comforting your child during the test, will help your child have a more positive experience.

Sometimes it is difficult to know how to explain tests to children. These preparation books have been created to help you and your child feel as prepared as possible.

If you feel that your child will have difficulty during the test or needs a more developmentally appropriate explanation prior to their visit, please call the Department of Pediatric Radiology's Child Life Specialist (412) 692- 9532.