CT (Computerized Tomography) Scan

A CT scan shows pictures of your body parts. A small amount of dye may be put into a vein in your arm. This dye leaves your body after a few days.

If you have any allergies to medicines, foods or other things, tell the staff before the test.

If you are pregnant or think you might be, tell the staff before the test.

Arrive on time for your test. The test takes 15 to 20 minutes for each area you are having checked. If you are having a scan of your abdomen (stomach) or pelvis, allow for an extra 2 hours to drink the liquid dye.

To Prepare

- Do not eat or drink anything, including water, for 4 hours before the test.
- You may take your medicines with sips of water.

During the Test

- If you are having an abdominal (stomach) or pelvic scan, you need to drink liquid dye. You drink the first part of the liquid when you arrive, more about 30 minutes later, and the rest of the liquid just before your scan, about 1 hour later.
- You will wear a hospital gown and lie on a table.
- An IV (intravenous) is put in a vein in your arm.
• Dye is put into your IV. You may feel hot or flushed for a few seconds.
• Lie still during the scan.
• You may be asked to hold your breath at times.
• The table moves slightly between each scan.

After the Test
• You may return to your normal diet and activity.
• If you had an abdominal or pelvic scan, you may have some loose stool from the liquid you drank.
• Test results are sent to your doctor. Your doctor will share the results with you.

Talk to your doctor or nurse if you have any questions or concerns.