

Diagnostic Imaging Department PREPARATION FOR CT BODY SCAN

Computerized Tomography - A CT or CAT Scan examination may be of any area of the body. The examination will vary in the length of time necessary depending on the area to be scanned.

1. If you are diabetic and taking Metformin, Glucophage, Glycon, Avandamet, or any other drug containing metformin, your current creatinine serum level must be known prior to exam. Your physician must organize this blood test at least 48 hours before your appointment if required.
2. The exam takes approximately 20 minutes and *may* include IV injection of contrast material (x-ray dye).
3. You should have **nothing to eat or drink 4 hours prior to exam time except** the 2nd dose of Gastrografin 1 hour prior to scan. You may drink water, unless otherwise stated.
4. Barium studies (barium enema/UGI) are NOT compatible with body scans (If had within 1-2 weeks of appointment time please consult your physician).
5. Please continue taking any prescribed medications.
6. When possible, please wear loose fitting clothing free of metal buttons, zippers and snaps.
7. Previous contrast allergies or iodine sensitivities should be mentioned to the CT staff.
8. Please complete the attached questionnaire prior to your appointment and provide it to the CT staff.

If you have had a previous reaction to contrast media or a history of iodine sensitivity, you should take E-Z Cat Contrast.

PROTOCOL FOR ADMINISTRATION OF GASTROGRAFIN ORAL CONTRAST:

The Gastrografin you have received contains enough for 3 doses to be taken orally when mixed. For each dose, **mix 10mls (2tsp) of Gastrografin with 300mls (10oz) of water or juice.**

- The first dose is to be taken anytime after 8 pm the evening prior to your appointment.
- The second dose is taken 1 hour prior to your exam.
- Please bring the remaining 10 mls of gastrografin (already mixed in your choice of liquid) with you. CT staff will inform you on when to drink your last dose.

PROTOCOL FOR ADMINISTRATION OF E-Z CAT ORAL CONTRAST:

The E-Z Cat you have received contains enough for 2 doses to be taken orally when mixed. Before mixing, shake the bottle of E-Z Cat well. For each dose mix **110mls of E-Z Cat with 140mls of water. Note: Please disregard the preparation instructions on the E-Z-Cat bottle.**

- The first dose is to be taken at bedtime the night before your exam.
- The second dose is taken 1 hour prior to your exam.
- You will receive a third dose by the CT staff prior to your exam.

Note: Both Gastrografin and E-Z-Cat should be stored at room temperature.

Contact Numbers:

If you have to cancel your CT appointment please contact the appropriate site
QEII Health Sciences Centre (HI and VG sites) CT Bookings at 902-473-2162
Dartmouth General Hospital CT Bookings at 902-465-8598
Cobequid Community Health Centre CT bookings at 902-869-6102