Computed Tomography

Computerized Tomography, also known as a CT or CAT scan can produce clear, extremely detailed pictures of the body’s internal structures. It can separate bone from muscle and fat in the part of the body being examined.

What to Expect During Your Appointment

**Metallic Materials**
All metallic materials and certain clothing around the body should be removed as they may interfere with the procedure or clarity of the images.

**Contrast Agent**
If request by your physician, you may receive a harmless IV or oral contrast agent which is used to acquire a clearer picture.

**Occasional Noise**
You will hear occasional noise as the scanner revolves around. Do not be alarmed as these sounds are normal.

**Short Exam Time**
A CT exam typically takes between five to 30 minutes, depending on the images requested.

**Remaining Still**
Help us ensure picture clarity by remaining still and by breathing normally while the scanner operates.

**Get Your Results**
Our center will contact your physician once your images are produced. Only your physician can discuss your results with you.

Common CT Applications

A CT is one of the fastest and most accurate tools for examining the chest, abdomen and pelvis because it provides detailed, cross-sectional views of all types of tissue.

- Trauma Injuries
- Cancer Detection
- Cardiovascular Diseases
- Skeletal Problems
- Guided Biopsies
- Surgical Planning and Assessments
- Radiation Treatments
- Bone Mineral Density

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EXAMINATION PREPARATION

It is extremely important that you follow these instructions for your exam.

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**How to Prepare For Your Appointment**

**Eating And Drinking**
Food and fluids may be restricted for several hours prior to the examination.
If a contrast agent will be used in your exam, you may be asked not to eat or drink anything for several hours beforehand.

**Wearing Of Accessories**
You will be asked to remove all jewelry, glasses, hearing aids, hair pins, and other metallic objects. We provide you with your own locker for your belongings. You may also be asked to remove dentures and wigs.

**Taking Medications**
You will be asked about your medications, allergies, recent illnesses and medical history as some conditions may increase the risk of an unusual adverse effect.

**Clothing For The Exam**
For your convenience, please dress appropriately. Consider wearing comfortable clothing that does not have any zippers, clasps, or metallic decoration. You may be asked to wear a cloth gown.

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**Alert Your Physician or An Akumin Staff Member**

— You should alert your physician or an Akumin staff member, if you have any metallic implants.

— Women should always inform their physician and technologist if they are breastfeeding or possibly pregnant.

— If you suffer from claustrophobia and may need a mild sedative.

— If you will have problems staying still for the exam as it may cause you pain.

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