

Information for patients about

# Contrast Enhanced CT- PET-CT Department

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**This leaflet must be read alongside the leaflet: Information for patients receiving a PET-CT Scan.**

## **What is a CT scan?**

A CT (Computed Tomography) scan takes a series of pictures of your body using X-rays. The pictures show cross-sections or slices of your body. This gives a very detailed image of the inside of your body.

A contrast (dye) injection before your scan helps to show your organs and vessels more clearly.

## **Do I need to do any special preparation before my CT scan?**

You **must** follow the preparation instructions given in the leaflet-**Information for patients receiving a PET-CT Scan.**

We also recommend you drink at least 500mls of still water before your appointment.

## **What does the scan involve?**

Your doctor has requested a PET-CT scan **and** a CT scan with contrast. These will be done on the same day.

When your PET-CT scan is finished, you will remain on the scanning bed. A contrast injection will be given to you and a CT scan will be performed.

## **How long will it take?**

The CT scan only takes about 10 minutes. However, staff will ask you to wait in the department for 15 minutes after your contrast injection.

## **What are the risks?**

The CT scan exposes you to a small amount of radiation in addition to your PET-CT scan. The risks associated with this are low and considered to be outweighed by the diagnostic benefits of the scan.

## **Comments and Suggestions**

Feedback from patients and carers helps us to improve our service. If you experience any problem or have any comments or suggestions about our centre, please let us know.



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