

FULL-SERVICE, ALL DIGITAL IMAGING NETWORK

Patient Considerations for CT

Please answer the questions below to determine which preparations may apply to you. Please note - **you may qualify for more than one preparation section**. Contact our patient care specialists if you have any questions.

1. *Was your exam ordered "with contrast"?*

Please see the **B. IV Contrast Exam Preparations** below. If your exam is non-contrast only, please refer to the **C. Non-Contrast Exam Preparations** below.

2. *Did your doctor order a CT of the Abdomen or Pelvis (or both)?*

Oral contrast will not be required if your Dr. is checking for Hematuria (Blood in the urine), Kidney stones or Hydronephrosis. For all other diagnoses, please review the **D. Oral Contrast Exam Preparations** below.

3. *Do you meet any of the criteria below?*

- You are over the age of 60
- You are diabetic
- You have a history of kidney disease, transplant or nephrectomy
- You are on dialysis

If yes to any of the above, please review our **A. Lab Requirements** below.

4. *Are you pregnant?*

Centrelake is unable to perform CT scans on pregnant women. Please consult with your physician for alternate solutions.

A. Centrelake Lab Requirements

We will require a recent blood test containing B.U.N. and Creatinine levels. Blood test must have been performed **within 30 days** from the date of your appointment. **Diabetic patients and those on dialysis** must have blood test performed within **14 days** from the date of your appointment. Patients on dialysis having an intravenous contrast exam are strongly advised to be dialyzed on the same day of injection and no later than 24 hours from the time of injection. Please coordinate with your dialysis center as needed. Centrelake will request confirmation of your dialysis appointment on the day of your exam.

B. IV Contrast Exam Preparations

Before the Exam

Please do not eat during the 4 hours immediately prior to your exam. You are asked to please drink 4 cups (32 oz.) of water the evening prior to your exam and 4 cups (32 oz.) of water the morning of your exam.

During the Exam

You are advised not to wear any jewelry or watches to your exam. However, a locker is provided for safekeeping of your valuables. You may be asked to wear a gown that will be provided for you. You will be asked to remove hairpins, jewelry, watches, eyeglasses, hearing aids and any removable dental work.

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Contrast agents contain iodine that may cause allergic reactions in some patients. Please inform your technologist or patient care specialist if you have any allergies, **especially** if you are allergic to iodine. Patients clear of iodine allergies will receive a contrast injection by vein.

Exam duration usually ranges from **15-60** minutes.

After the Exam

You may leave immediately after your exam and return to your normal activities. It may be beneficial to have a friend or family member join you for your scheduled appointment to transport you to/from our facility if necessary.

C. Non-IV Contrast Exam Preparations

Before the Exam

No preparations are required for Non-IV contrast exams. If you are scheduled for an abdomen or pelvic CT, please see the Oral Contrast Exam Preparations below.

During the Exam

You are advised not to wear any jewelry or watches to your exam. However, a locker is provided for safekeeping of your valuables. You may be asked to wear a gown that will be provided for you. You will be asked to remove hairpins, jewelry, watches, eyeglasses, hearing aids and any removable dental work.

Exam duration usually ranges from **15-60** minutes.

After the Exam

You may leave immediately after your exam and return to your normal activities. It may be beneficial to have a friend or family member join you for your scheduled appointment to transport you to/from our facility if necessary.

D. Oral Contrast Exam Preparations

Before the Exam

Please do not eat 4 hours immediately prior to your exam. You are asked to drink 4 cups (32 oz.) of water the evening prior to your exam and 4 cups (32 oz.) of water the morning of your exam.

For patients opting for Barium Oral contrast, please drink the first bottle the evening before your exam. The second bottle must be FINISHED one (1) hour prior to your scheduled exam time.

Patients opting for Gastrografin will receive instructions upon arrival. CT Abdomen patients are asked to arrive 1.5 hours early. Patients having a CT Abdomen & Pelvis or CT Pelvis are required to arrive 2 hours early.

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