

# CT Scan



UHN



The New Women's College Hospital



Joint Department of Medical Imaging Department

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your appointment is at:

Site: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions or concerns about the test, call the hospital you have the appointment at:

MSH 416-586-4800, ext. 4418

PMH 416-946-2889

TGH 416-340-3384

TWH 416-603-5249

WCH 416-323-6400, ext.4833



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University Health Network  
Toronto General Hospital Toronto Western Hospital Princess Margaret Hospital

## What a CT scan is for

A CT scan is an x-ray that we do using a computer. We take a series of pictures that show more detail than regular x-rays. Sometimes radiologists use CT scans as guides when they are doing biopsies.

## Before your CT scan

If you are having a CT scan of the stomach (abdominal CT scan) do not eat or drink four (4) hours before your appointment. We might ask you to drink barium or water one hour before the scan. Barium is a liquid that makes your stomach and intestines show up in the scan.

For some CT scans we might inject you with a dye (contrast). We will put a needle in a vein in your arm right before the scan to inject the dye. (The dye makes your blood vessels show up in the scan and can provide more information for the radiologist who will look at your CT scan.)

If you are having a biopsy, you may have to do some special preparations. You'll get instructions from your doctor, the CT technologist, or the staff who book your appointment at the hospital. Call the hospital if you have questions about what to do before or after your biopsy.

If you have any allergies, or **if you ever had an allergic reaction to x-ray dye (contrast)**, tell your doctor before booking your scan. You may need to be premedicated for the scan. If you have **diabetes or renal disease**, we also need recent blood work (a serum creatinine within three 3 months) from your doctor before booking your scan.

You can take your usual medication before the scan. If you are diabetic, you may have a light breakfast or snack as needed.

## How long will the scan take?

The scan takes from 10 to 20 minutes. You may be at the hospital for about 1-2 hours. We will make every attempt to remain on schedule, however, sometimes delays occur due to emergency requests. These cases may take priority.

## What happens during the scan?

- You lie down on a table.
- We put the part of your body that we need to scan into position. It needs to be in the middle of the scanner.
- The table that you are lying on moves you in and out of the scanner. The scanner is a large machine that takes up most of the room.
- During the scan, the technologist leaves the room.
- We can still hear you and see you through a window.
- We give you instructions through an intercom.

- You have to lie still while the scan is happening.
- You might hear buzzing or clicking noises from the scanner. These are normal and you don't need to worry.

### **After your scan**

You can eat as you normally would after the scan as long as you don't have another test to do.

**Important:** If you had to drink barium or if you were **injected with dye (contrast)**, drink lots of fluid **over the next 24 hours** to help flush them out of your body.

After the scan, we study the results and send a report to your doctor in about a week. Your doctor will answer any questions you have about your diagnosis.

### **When you come in for your CT scan**

- Don't wear jewellery (or be prepared to take it off for the scan). If we are scanning you above the neck, you may also have to take off your dentures, hearing aids, or hairpins.
- Try to bring someone with you. If you're having a CT-guided biopsy, you'll want someone to help you get home afterwards.
- Bring a translator if you don't speak English or notify the hospital before your appointment so that we can make arrangements for a translator to be available for your appointment
- Bring your health card.
- It's important to arrive on time. If you are more than 15 minutes late, we may need to reschedule your appointment.

### **How to find the CT Department at:**

Princess Margaret Hospital  
610 University Avenue  
3rd Floor, Room 625  
416-946-2889

### **Directions:**

#### **If you enter from south of College St. on the west side of University Ave:**

- Enter through the glass doors, proceed past the entrance and take the elevators to the third floor. Once off the elevators walk past the Breast Imaging Centre and proceed to the ramp on the right hand side. Walk down the ramp and turn left. The Reception Desk in Medical Imaging will be on your left hand side.
- Proceed to registration desk with your hospital and OHIP cards.



**If you enter from University Avenue at the Main Entrance:**

- This entrance is located just north of the entrance to Mount Sinai Hospital. Proceed up the stairs past the Tim Horton's on your left to the glass elevators.
- Take the glass elevators to the third floor. The Medical Imaging Reception is to the left once you have gotten off the elevators
- Proceed to registration desk with your hospital and OHIP cards

**Parking** is located behind the Hospital on Murray Street. There are two parking garages and also street parking available.

**How to find the CT Department at:**

Toronto General Hospital  
585 University Avenue  
1st Floor, New Clinical Services Building  
Medical Imaging Reception  
416-340-3365

**Directions:**

**If you enter from University Ave. (Peter Munk Building):**

- First building south of College St. on the east side of University Ave.
- Enter through Peter Munk Building, walk up the stairs towards Tim Hortons and enter the Medical Imaging Department on your right.
- Proceed to registration desk with your hospital and OHIP cards

**If you enter from Elizabeth St through the John David Eaton building:**

- Take the elevators on your right (surrounded by blue tiles) or stairs to the first floor.
- Walk in the direction of the West Elevators, as you pass Tim Hortons the Imaging Department is on your left
- Proceed to registration desk with your hospital and OHIP cards
- Parking available under the hospital off Gerrard St or in the Elizabeth Street Parkade across from the John David Eaton Building

**How to find the CT Department at:**

Toronto Western Hospital  
399 Bathurst Street  
3rd Floor, East Wing, Medical Imaging Reception  
416-603-5249



## **Directions:**

### **If you enter from Dundas or Bathurst Street:**

- Turn left at information desk and walk straight through atrium/food court until you reach the second information desk
- Turn right a second information desk and look for the east elevator, which should be on your right
- Take east elevators to the 3rd floor and emerge at the medical imaging reception desk

### **If you enter from Nassau Street:**

- Turn left at information desk and continue down hall until you get to the east elevators that will appear on your right
- Take east elevators to the 3rd floor and emerge at the medical imaging reception desk

### **If you enter from Leonard Avenue:**

- Upon entering, continue down hall until you get to the east elevators that will appear on your left
- Take east elevators to the 3rd floor and emerge at the medical imaging reception desk

## **How to find the CT Department at:**

Mount Sinai Hospital  
600 University Avenue  
5th floor, Medical Imaging Reception  
416-586-4800, ext. 4418

## **Directions:**

### **If you enter from University Avenue :**

- Upon entering the hospital, past the Indigo store and your first right there will be a set of elevators.
- Take these elevators to the 5th floor and sign in at the front reception.

### **If you enter from Murray Street:**

- Proceed down the hall to the patient elevators located on the left side just before the Indigo store.
- Take these elevators to the 5th floor and sign in at the front reception.
- **Please note:** if you are coming for your appointment past 8pm, you will need to take the Murray street elevators which are located near the Murray Street entrance and are past the information desk. Take these elevators to the 5th floor and sign in at the MRI reception.\*



**How to find the CT Department at:**

Women's College Hospital  
76 Grenville Street  
Medical Imaging Reception  
2nd floor, Rm W276  
416-323-6400, ext 4833

**Directions:****From Grenville Street Entrance:**

Take the main stairway and turn right at top landing. The MI reception desk is a few steps away. Or take the elevator (on your left) to the 2nd floor. The MI reception desk is right there as you step out.

**From Grosvenor Street Entrance:**

Walk down the few steps and through the doorway, turn right and walk down the hallway until you can make a left turn (follow the sign that directs you to ABM / West wing).

Continue to walk until you can make a right turn (keep following the ABM / West wing sign) and walk a few steps until you can make a left.

You will see an ABM bank machine and the PharmaCentre on your right. Turn right here and continue to walk past the set of 4 elevators until you get to the main lobby.

From the main lobby you can either take the stairs or the elevator to the 2nd floor:

- i) Stairs: turn right at the top landing and MI reception is just down the hall
- ii) Elevator: walk a few steps past the staircase to the set of 2 elevators. Take the elevator to the 2nd floor and as you step out, Medical Imaging main reception will be right there.