



What is a CT (CAT) Scan?

(Computer Assisted Tomography) (Computerized Axial Tomography)

A CT scan is a relatively simple, safe and painless diagnostic exam that can provide more detailed information than a conventional x-ray. A CT scan provides many thin sliced pictures for the radiologist to view.

What happens during your CT scan?

When you arrive at Iowa Radiology, you may be given a drink and asked to wait 30-60 minutes before you are scanned. The drink contains an oral x-ray dye. The dye moves through your digestive tract and helps the radiologist to see your organs better. You may be given an IV injection of x-ray dye. Your test may not require any contrast, but could involve one or both types. If your CT scan does not require any contrast, you can expect a 30 minute appointment.

You will be asked to lie down on the CT table. The part of your body that is to be scanned will be positioned in the large doughnut-shaped scanner ring. The CT scan time is very quick.

Iowa Radiology CT Scan Reminder

Iowa	Exam:
Radiology	Date:
In Partnership With	Time:







What do I need to do prior to my CT scan?

Depending on the body part to be imaged, you may be asked to refrain from eating or drinking anything for 6 hours prior to your exam. If you have any allergies or are a diabetic, you may be given individual instructions before and after your CT scan. Some insurance companies require a preauthorization before you may have a CT scan. Please check with your insurance company to see if a CT preauthorization is required. Your doctor must apply for the preauthorization if it is needed.

What happens after my CT scan?

After the CT scan you may resume your usual eating and drinking. The results of your CT scan will be faxed to your doctor.



Clive Office: 12368 Stratford Drive, Ste. 300 • Clive, IA 50325 From I-80, Exit west onto University Avenue. Turn north onto 124th Street. We are the second building on the east side of the road.



Downtown Location: 1221 Pleasant St., Ste. 350 • Des Moines, IA 50309 From I-235, Exit south on Keo Way. Follow hospital signs to Methodist Hospital. We are located in Suite 350 of the John Stoddard Building. (Free parking is available in the parking garage west of the building)



Ankeny Medical Park: North Ankeny Medical Park, 3625 N. Ankeny Blvd., Suite H., Ankeny, Iowa 50023 From I-35, Exit west on 36th St. (exit # 94). Go west approximately 1½ miles and turn right (north) into the Unity Point Ankeny Medical Park. We are located inside of the Ankeny Medical Park on the northeast corner of Ankeny Blvd. and 36th Street.