

# CT scan



## 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.

The tech will ask you to lie down on the CT table. The part of your body that is to be scanned will be positioned on the CT table. The CT scan time is very quick. Please let your doctor know if you have an allergy to iodine.

## Iowa Radiology CT Scan Reminder



Exam: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

In Partnership With



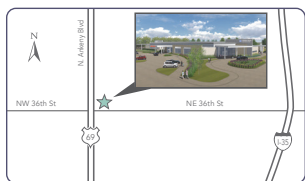


## What do I need to do prior to my CT scan?

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.



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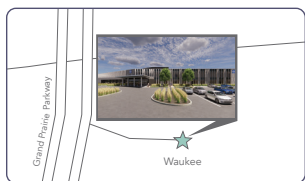
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