



Computed Tomography (CT) Scan Instructions

What is a CT scan?

A CT scan is an X-ray image that is taken at different angles and processed by a computer.

Is there preparation for a CT scan?

- It is important that your child be very still during the CT scan. Like a camera, any movement causes blurry pictures. If your child is unable to lie still or follow instructions, he or she may need to be sedated for the exam.
- Schedule the exam with the Radiology scheduler at 214-559-8572.
- **A legal guardian or parent must accompany your child.**
- Give all prescribed medicine at the regular time unless otherwise directed.

What happens during the scan?

- A certified child life specialist may be available to help prepare, distract and support your child. Child life specialists help ease fears and anxieties that some children have during their hospital visits.
- Your child will lie on a table that slides into the center of the scanner.
- Your child may need to lie on his or her stomach, back or side.
- The procedure may take about 15 minutes if your child is able to lie still.
- If your child must be sedated, the procedure could take up to three hours.

If your child is ill (fever, cough, flu, etc.), please cancel or reschedule your child's appointment. If you have any questions or concerns about this procedure, please call 214-559-8572.