

Common Tests

Common CT Tests include:

Routine Examinations - Head, Neck Chest, Abdomen/Pelvis, Spine and other extremities (such as wrists, hands, legs and feet).

Specialised Examinations:

- **Virtual Colonoscopy** - Used to identify lesions in the bowel such as polyps, tumours or ulceration.
- **Enterography** - An examination that takes images of the small bowel.
- **Cardiac Imaging**
Calcium Score - This scan is a way of looking at any calcium built up in the arteries supplying your heart muscle.
Coronary Angiogram - Looks at the arteries supplying your heart, particularly showing up plaque or severe narrowings.

Interventional Procedures (CT Guided):

- **Facet joint injection** - Injections into the small sliding (facet) joints of the spine.
- **Joint injection** - An injection of local anaesthetic and/or steroid into a joint.
- **Arthrogram** - An injection of contrast dye or a radio-active tracer into a joint to allow better visualisation of internal joint structures during a CT scan.
- **Deep tissue/organ biopsies** - Involves taking a tiny sample of tissue through a fine needle aspiration (FNA) or a core biopsy.
- **Lung biopsy** - Involves taking a tiny sample of tissue through a needle.
- **Drainages** - Involves drainage of fluid through a needle or plastic tube.
- **Foraminal, nerve and epidural steroid injections** - Injections made close to the nerves of the neck or lower back as they leave the spine, or into the epidural space within the spine. The injection may help to confirm that compression or irritation of a particular nerve is responsible for your symptoms and aims to provide relief.
- **Lumbar puncture or myelogram** - A medical procedure that your doctor has ordered to analyse the (cerebrospinal fluid) which surrounds the brain and spinal cord.

Locations and Contact Details

CENTRAL CLINICS

St Andrew's Hospital ✓
Phone: 08 8402 4402
Fax: 08 8402 4430

Calvary Wakefield Hospital ✓
Phone: 08 8306 5612
Fax: 08 8306 5623

Burnside ✓
Phone: 08 8403 3100
Fax: 08 8403 3120

Kurralt Park ✓
Phone: 1300 43 55 66
Fax: 08 8193 9550

Stepney (SPORTSMED)
Phone: 08 8309 2209
Fax: 08 8309 2223

SAHMRI - Opening Late 2016
Phone: 08 8470 6750 ✓
Fax: 08 8470 6755

NORTHERN CLINICS

Modbury ✓
Phone: 08 8397 5800
Fax: 08 8397 5811

Munno Para (Blakeview) ✓
Phone: 08 8307 9700
Fax: 08 8307 9709

Prospect ✓
Phone: 08 8309 4130
Fax: 08 8309 4142

HILLS CLINICS

Mt. Barker District Hospital ✓
Phone: 1800 766 433
Fax: 08 8188 7729

Mt. Barker Central
Phone: 1800 766 433
Fax: 08 8188 7713

SOUTHERN CLINICS

Noarlunga Hospital ✓
Phone: 08 8307 3400
Fax: 08 8307 3420

Seaford Meadows ✓
Phone: 1800 373 982
Fax: 08 8307 3420

Southern Specialist Centre ✓
Phone: 08 8307 3450
Fax: 08 8307 3460

COUNTRY CLINICS

Alice Springs Hospital ✓
Phone: 08 8951 7870
Fax: 08 8953 4300

Goolwa ✓
Phone: 1800 693 126
Fax: 08 555 6110

Port Augusta Hospital ✓
Phone: 08 8642 5322
Fax: 08 8642 6255

Port Lincoln Hospital ✓
Phone: 08 8683 2227
Fax: 08 8683 2090

Port Pirie Hospital ✓
Phone: 08 8638 4519
Fax: 08 8638 4368

Victor Harbor ✓
Phone: 08 8552 0590
Fax: 08 8552 0597

Warraroo District Hospital ✓
Phone: 08 8823 0235
Fax: 08 8823 0232

Whyalla Hospital ✓
Phone: 08 8645 5486
Fax: 08 8645 5584

✓ CT available at these clinics

**DR JONES
& PARTNERS**
MEDICAL IMAGING

X-Ray
MRI
Ultrasound

CT (Computed Tomography)

Dental
Mammography
Bone Densitometry
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PET

Patient Information Guide



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What is a CT Scan?

A CT (Computed Tomography) scan is a medical imaging scan that uses a thin set of rotating x-rays to produce a digital cross sectional image of the body. To obtain these images an x-ray tube rotates around your body whilst you lie flat down on a moving x-ray table.

A CT scan can be performed on any part of the body that your doctor wishes to see, to help in diagnosis of a problem, to better define a known problem or to monitor for a change. There are many different protocols we can perform with variations in the amount of the body covered and the timing of the scan after an injection of contrast if this is used. We need to have information about the question which is being asked by your doctor for our doctor (Radiologist) to work out which is the most appropriate protocol for you to have.



How do I prepare for a CT Scan?

In general no special preparation is required for a CT examination. Some CT examinations require you to fast prior. You will be instructed at the time of booking if this will be required.

Intravenous Contrast Injection

For many CT scans it will be recommended that you have an injection of intravenous contrast. This allows much better differentiation of the soft tissues and can also help define the type of lesion seen on the scan. Contrast is necessary to perform angiogram studies. Overall this injection is relatively safe.

To have contrast, a small plastic cannula is placed in a vein in your arm before the scan. The contrast looks clear and will be injected through the cannula during the scan. At this time you may notice a sensation of warmth and a metallic taste in the mouth which lasts for a minute or two. Occasionally some people may feel nauseated. These feelings are not the same as an allergic reaction. The contrast is excreted by your kidneys very rapidly and will not stay in your body.

You will be provided with an information sheet about contrast and asked to fill out a questionnaire which will alert our staff and doctors about any increased risks you may have in relation to the contrast injection.



What happens during a CT Scan?

For most studies you will lie on the CT table on your back and this may be feet first or head first. When the images are being taken, the table will move through the 'donut hole' of the scanner so that all of the body part being imaged passes through the centre. You may hear a slight whirring noise, but this is not very loud and does not last very long. You may have one or more sets of images being acquired. Each one usually lasts less than 1 minute.

During the examination you may be asked to hold your breath for short periods during the scans. For certain examinations you may also be required to have an injection of x-ray contrast media to enhance your organs or blood vessels. This is a routine procedure and involves a small cannula to be inserted into a vein in your arm. Upon arriving depending on your CT examination you may be required to fill in a short questionnaire regarding your medical history and your allergies.

Are there any risks/side effects of having a CT Scan?

All CT scans involve exposure to radiation. In theory radiation can be harmful but there have never been any proven negative effects at the low doses used in diagnostic imaging. Dr Jones and Partners has invested heavily in up to date equipment in order to minimise radiation exposure to patients. We continuously monitor the radiation doses in our practice.

The radiation exposure from a CT scan will vary with the type of scan and the size of the patient. Everyone is exposed to radiation from natural sources everyday and in many cases the radiation dose from a CT scan would be equivalent to, or less than the radiation from natural sources in a year.

It is also important to remember that the risk of missing an important finding is almost always going to be larger than the theoretical risk from radiation from a CT scan.