



Procedure Information Sheet Computed Tomography

Visit No.: Dept.:
Name: Sex/Age:
Doc. No.: Adm. Date:
Attn. Dr.:
Patient No.: PN

*Please fill in /
affix patient's label*

Page No:

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+10	+20	+30	+40	+50	+60	+70	+80	+90

Introduction

Computed Tomography (CT) makes use of computer technology together with a rotating x-ray device to create detail cross-sectional images of the organs or areas of the body to provide diagnostic information for suspected pathology.

Preparation

1. Please inform your doctor of history of allergy to food and drugs, and in particular any previous reaction to contrast medium, asthma, urticaria, eczema and allergic rhinitis etc.
2. Please inform our staff before the examination if you are or may be pregnant.
3. A written consent is required if intravenous injection of contrast medium is indicated.
4. For examinations with intravenous contrast medium, fasting is needed for 3 hours prior to examination. Plain water is allowed.
5. For diabetic patient on drugs, consult your doctor concerned for the adjustment of drug dosage.

What are “28-day rule” and “10-day rule”?

When a female patient of child bearing age requires an CT examination involving direct irradiation of the abdomen or pelvis and if she cannot exclude the possibility of pregnancy, consideration should be given to postpone the examination by applying the “28-day rule” or the “10-day rule”. Low dose CT examinations should be done within 28 days from the onset of her menstruation. For high dose CT examinations like CT abdomen or pelvis, the examination should only be performed within 10 days from the onset of her menstruation.

Procedure

1. Some examinations will take a longer time than the others.
2. The whole procedure is monitored by healthcare professionals.
3. During the examination, the patient will be lying on the table of the CT scanner. The table will then carry the patient slowly through the gantry of the scanner and a well-collimated X-Ray beam will pass through the patient. A number of cross-sectional images of the organs/areas are made.
4. Intravenous contrast medium may be needed to improve the diagnostic quality of the images.
5. Medications for sedation are sometime administered to paediatric patients in order to obtain images without undue movement.
6. Please keep still during CT scanning and listen carefully to instructions given by our staff.

After the examination

You can eat or drink as usual after the examination.



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Complications of Contrast Medium Administration

- Mild reactions** – Itching, urticaria, nausea, vomiting, feeling of warmth, pain at the injection site, sneezing, coughing, etc.
- More severe reactions** – Shortness of breath, wheezing, irregular heartbeat, chest pain, convulsions, kidney failure, hypertension, unconsciousness, etc. These reactions usually require medical treatment and the chance of occurrence is about 4 in 10,000.
- Death** – The chance of death is rare and the fatal occurrence is about 2.1 in 1,000,000.
- Delayed reactions** – A few patients may experience delayed reactions and include arm pain, itching, rash, painful or swollen salivary glands, etc.
- Contrast extravasation** – It is a potential complication that due to the leakage of contrast medium to soft tissue adjacent to the injection site. It may result in swelling or pain and is commonly self-limited. More severe injuries may result in tissue necrosis.
- For diabetic patients on **Metformin** and with impaired kidney function, there is increased risk of lactic acidosis.

Remarks

If you have any question concerning about computed tomography examinations, please feel free to ask the staff of the Radiology Department.

References

- Smart Patient (Website : <http://www21.ha.org.hk>)
- ACR Manual on Contrast Media (Version 10.3, 2018)
- Local Radiation Protection Rules of Radiology Department, St. Paul's Hospital (Version 5.0, 2019)

I acknowledge that I have understood the above information and was given opportunity to ask questions concerning my procedure.

Name of Patient / Relative

Signature

Relationship (If any)

Date