

## **C.T. (Computerized Tomography)**

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### **What is a C.T.?**

A computerized tomogram (C.T.) is a study that produces a series of images of specific parts of the body. During the scan, the x-ray tube moves around the body part being studied, as the table moves the patient through the scanner. Many cross sectional images are obtained in this manner, and can be manipulated by the computer to demonstrate anatomy more clearly.

### **Who performs your C.T.?**

A medical radiation technologist with specialized training in C.T.

### **What happens during the procedure?**

A diagnostic imaging nurse or medical radiation technologist will explain the procedure. Sometimes the radiologist (x-ray doctor) who has reviewed your paperwork may request the use of a contrast agent in the form of a drink or IV injection. The contrast helps highlight blood vessels or organs, so they are more easily seen. If this is the case, the nurse/technologist will review a consent form with you. They will then place an intravenous lock in your arm. The technologist performing the scan will bring you into the room and have you lie down on the table. It is important that you remain still during the scan.

### **Should I expect any after effects as a result of this procedure?**

If you received contrast media, it will be absorbed into the blood, collected by the kidneys and excreted with urine. The contrast media will not affect the colour of the urine. You may resume a normal diet. You are encouraged to drink several extra glasses of water within the next 24 hours, to help your body remove the contrast media.

### **When and how will I know the results?**

Your physician will receive a written report from the radiologist (specialized medical doctor). You should obtain the results from your physician. If there is an urgency, your physician is more than welcome to contact us by phone.

**Bring your Health Card to your appointment.**

**Arrive 20 minutes prior to appointment for registration.**

**If unable to keep appointment, please give 24 hours notification.**

**All QHC hospitals are designated as a reduced scent environment.**

**We do not provide child care, please leave young children at home**

### **CT ABDOMEN &/OR PELVIS ORAL PREPARATION:**

The oral preparation **begins the day before** your appointment. The CT oral preparation is available from any of the Quinte Healthcare Diagnostic Imaging Departments.

**(Follow this preparation sheet, not the instructions on the E-Z bottle)**

- Empty the bottle of E-Z CAT solution into the container provided. (32 oz/900 ml) Add water to the top of the container. Stir to mix.
- At 9 p.m. on the evening prior to your examination, **drink 1/3** of the preparation.
- Take nothing to eat or drink after midnight (oral medications may be taken with just enough fluids to ingest).
- On the day of your examination, one hour (1) prior to your appointment time, **drink another 1/3** of the preparation.
- Report for your CT scan at least 20 minutes prior to your appointment time and **bring the remaining 1/3** of the preparation with you. You will be instructed when to drink this last portion in the CT department.

**An INSULIN dependent patient should continue to take their usual dose of insulin and breakfast on the morning of the examination.**

### **CONSENT FORMS**

Your diagnostic procedure may require the injection of a contrast medium (x-ray dye).

You may be asked to sign an informed consent prior to undergoing your CT procedure.

If the appointment is for someone under the age of 16 years, a parent or guardian must accompany the patient in order to sign the consent.

If your physician has not provided you with a consent, one will be provided when you report for your CT, (if it is required for your examination).

This is your opportunity to ask any questions following a description of the risks, benefits and alternatives of the procedure.