

**St. Joseph Hospital Imaging
Department of Computed Tomography (CT)**

What is CT Neck, Chest, Abdomen and Pelvis Imaging?

CT Neck, Chest, Abdomen and Pelvis Imaging shows your internal organs such as your lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas, spleen, stomach and intestines.

Before your test

- If your exam includes an IV contrast injection, you will be instructed not to eat or drink anything four hours prior to your exam. The IV contrast improves the quality of the image by highlighting the arteries, veins and other structures. Not all scans require the use of contrast.
- You may be asked to have some lab work drawn prior to your test.
- If your exam includes oral contrast you will be asked to drink the contrast liquid 30 minutes to one hour prior to your exam.
- The technologist will ask you a few questions regarding your medical history.
- Please leave your jewelry and valuables at home and wear comfortable clothing.
- The average length of the CT scan is about 30 minutes.

Please arrive 60 minutes prior to your appointment time.

Please register at the St. Joseph Hospital Outpatient Pavilion on the first floor.

If you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant please advise the technologist.

During your test

You will be asked to lie flat on the CT table. The technologist will position you on the exam table. It is important to hold still as motion makes the images blurry. IV contrast may be injected into your vein while in the CT scan room. During the injection, you may feel a warm sensation or a hot “flushed” feeling and you may have a “metallic” taste in your mouth. This is normal. The CT table will move into the scanner. You will be asked to hold your breath for about 10 to 15 seconds during the scan. The technologist will always be able to see and hear you during your exam.

After your test

There are no restrictions placed on you after this exam. If you received IV contrast, please drink lots of fluids after your test to help flush the contrast out of your system. The technologist will not be able to give you any results. The results will be available to the doctor who ordered the scan within one to two business days.

Thank you

We are honored that you have selected St. Joseph Hospital to serve your healthcare needs.