

Hudson Valley Hematology-Oncology Associates

Preparation for your **CT Scan** (Office number 454-1942)

A Cat Scan, also known as a CT Scan, is a radiology exam that uses special computerized x-ray equipment that creates detailed images of the inside of the body. The x-ray beam rotates around the patient. With each rotation multiple pictures are created from "slices" of anatomy.

Patient Preparation:

- Women of child bearing age will be asked whether there is a chance that you might be pregnant.
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Day of the Test:

- You may take necessary medications with water.
 - Before your examination, a CT technologist will explain the procedure to you and answer any questions you might have.
 - Please wear comfortable clothing w/o metal clips, buttons or zippers. All female bras contain some metal so sports bras are recommended.
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During the Examination:

- Most CT Scans are very quick with the examination completed in a few minutes.
 - You may be asked to remove personal accessories, such as eyeglasses, dentures, hair accessories, jewelry, etc, as those items can interfere with scan.
 - Once in the scan room, the CT technologist will position you on the table.
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Type of Exams:

CT Scan Preparation w/out IV or Oral Contrast:

- No Prep needed for this exam

CT Scan Preparation w/IV Contrast:

- Do not eat or drink anything 4 hours prior to the exam
- Just before the scan starts, you will be given a contrast agent injected into a vein. The contrast agent helps visualize tissues in the area being studied, and is different from the contrast you drink.
- After the contrast is injected, you may briefly feel nauseous, warm or flushed, and/or experience a metallic taste in your mouth.
- If you begin to itch, feel short of breath, or are otherwise uncomfortable, let the technologist know immediately.

CT Scan Preparation w/Oral Contrast:

- You must start drinking 1 and a ½ bottles of Oral Contrast 45min prior to your scheduled appointment. Last ½ brought with you for the scan.
- Do not eat or drink anything 4 hours prior to the exam.
- You may take necessary medications with sips of water.