

Patient Information Leaflet

After computerised tomography (CT) (With contrast)

Produced By: Diagnostic Imaging

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You have just had a CT scan, generally we do not expect you to experience any problems but we recommend that you read the following, as you were also given an injection of 'contrast medium'.

This 'contrast medium' travels through your bloodstream and shows areas on the scan much more clearly. However, on rare occasions, patients have been known to react to the chemicals used. Therefore, we advise you to read the following information.

Please **do not drive** or operate machinery for **at least 1 hour** after the injection of the intravenous contrast medium.

Please make sure you drink **enough fluid for 24 hours** after the scan. (Avoid dehydration)

If you also had a barium drink, (white liquid), this will colour your stools for a couple of days. Again, drink sufficient fluid and avoid dehydration.

If you develop **breathing problems** or **any swelling** of face or limbs, you are advised to **attend A&E immediately**. Tell them that you have recently had an injection of contrast medium in the X-ray department. This is rare but can be a delayed allergic reaction.

If you develop a rash and signs of a minor allergic reaction after the scan, please phone for advice. The scanner staff will be available on **(01983) 534665** between 9 am and 5 pm but you will need to contact your GP, Island Health Line or A&E outside these hours.

If you take **Metformin** for diabetes control, it is important that you do not take it for 48 hours after the scan. Your diabetic nurse can advise you if you have any worries or questions about this.

Finally

If you have any further questions please contact a Senior Radiographer on:

Tel: 524081 ext. 4670
9.30 – 12.00 and 13.30 – 16.30 Monday to Friday.

Access to Health Records by Diagnostic Staff

As a patient undergoing tests as part of a diagnostic procedure information about you may be accessed by other healthcare professionals. It is normal practice in these circumstances for your consent to be implied as part of your agreement to have the test or tests performed.

Accidental over exposure of radiation

Despite all safeguards, medical exposures can occur where the actual dose is greater than was intended. The regulations governing these exposures are either IR(ME)R 2000 or IRR 99. In the event of an over exposure the incident will be reported to the Radiation Protection Advisor. It will be down to the discretion of the RPA as to whether there is a clinical requirement to inform any patient of an overexposure.

If you require this leaflet in another language, large print or another format, please contact the Quality Team, telephone 01983 534850, who will advise you.

Valuables should not be brought into the hospital. If patients have to bring in valuable items they should ask a nurse to store them safely and request a receipt for the items. You may not be able to have the valuable items returned if the time of discharge from hospital is out of hours.

We are sorry but the Trust cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to items not given for safe keeping.

You can get further information on all sorts of health issues through NHS interactive available through Sky TV or online at: <http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk/>

For Health advice and out of hours GP service please call the NHS 111 service on: 111

We Value Your Views On Our Service

If you wish to comment on the care which you, your relative or friend has received, we will be pleased to hear from you. Please speak to the person in charge of the ward, clinic or service in the first instance or ask them to contact the Quality Team. If you wish to contact them directly, telephone on 534850.

Alternatively you may prefer to write to:

Chief Executive
Isle Of Wight NHS Trust
St Mary's Hospital
Newport
Isle of Wight
PO30 5TG

All NHS sites are no smoking areas.

If you would like help and advice to stop smoking please call: Freephone 0800 169 0 169 to talk to the NHS Smoking Helpline.

Ref: **DI/AfterCT/3**