

## Post Procedure Instructions for Outpatients after a CT Scan with Intravenous Contrast

Please find below information to assist you regarding your medical imaging exam that required the use of an injection of iodinated contrast agent.

### Computed Tomography (CT)

CT scan is a medical imaging procedure that uses X-ray equipment and digital computer technology to create detailed images of areas inside the body.

### Intravenous Contrast

Intravenous contrast is used during a CT scan to help highlight blood vessels and to enhance the tissue structure of various organs such as the brain, liver, spine, and kidneys. It is a clear fluid which is injected into a vein using a small needle.

### What Happens After the CT Scan?

After the procedure, you will be observed in the Medical Imaging Department for about 15 minutes, after which you are allowed to go home.

The contrast will leave your body during normal urination. **Drink plenty of fluid to help with expelling the contrast you have received.**

You may resume your normal diet and medications except for Metformin (Diabetes based medication) after the exam. Please refer to the Metformin based medication instructions as per the hand-out.

### What if I have a Reaction?

It is rare to have a severe reaction to the contrast. A severe reaction will usually take place in the first 10 minutes after the contrast has been administered. Occasionally a person can have a delayed reaction.

Please call your primary doctor, the nearest emergency department or urgent care centre if the injection site becomes red, swollen or hot or if you develop unusual symptoms you did not have before the procedure especially shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.

Your wellbeing is important to us, if you have any questions please call 03 5352 9325.



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EGHS would like to thank our consumers for reviewing this information.



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