

CT INTRAVENOUS CONTRAST CONSENT

Your doctor has referred you for a computerized tomography (CT) scan, which is an examination that uses X-rays and a computer to produce images of internal body parts. For the majority of CT scans a contrast material is necessary in order to improve the visualization of the areas that are being scanned.

Your CT scan today is going to include an injection of a contrast agent into your vein. This contrast agent is a sterile, clear, colorless solution that is used to highlight tissues or organs that are not distinguished from their surroundings on CT scans. It not only makes the identification of abnormalities more accurate, but may also provide additional information that might otherwise have gone undetected.

The use of CT contrast is felt to be safe and the majority of patients have no complaints or symptoms following an injection of CT contrast. However, although rare, complications are possible whenever an injection is given and you have the right to be informed about the risks. You also have the right to refuse the injection of contrast and request the CT scan be performed without the contrast. However, it is important to understand that the images will not be as detailed and may not be as helpful to the radiologist and your physician.

POTENTIAL RISKS

Anytime an injection is given there is potential for pain, bleeding, bruising or swelling at the injection site. The usual reactions experienced from an injection of CT contrast, which are considered relatively minor but nevertheless can be distressing to patients, are a metallic taste in the mouth and a warm flush in various parts of the body. Occasionally a patient may also have itching, nausea, or other vague symptoms for a short time after the injection. Less frequent but more serious allergic-type reactions that may occur include hives, sneezing, shortness of breath and swelling of the eyes and lips. In rare instances, a few more serious reactions have been reported that include asthmatic attack, convulsions or shock. In very rare instances the administration of CT contrast has resulted in kidney failure, cardiac arrest or death.

If you have special concerns and would like more information, or if you do not understand this form, our staff will be glad to discuss it with you.

It is important to inform the technologist if you have had a previous reaction to an injection of CT contrast, if you have a history of asthma, allergies, anemia, sickle cell anemia or kidney disease or if you are pregnant or breast-feeding.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE INFORMATION. I HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS. I BELIEVE THAT I HAVE ENOUGH INFORMATION TO GIVE MY CONSENT FOR THE CT SCAN WITH THE USE OF CT INTRAVENOUS CONTRAST.

Patient Signature

Date

Technologist Signature

Date



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