



**Rocky Mountain  
Internal Medicine, PC.**

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## CT Scan

### What is it?

CT Scan stands for Computer Tomography Scan. The end result is basically a 3D x-ray of the part of your body being scanned.

### How long will it take?

The whole exam takes about 30 minutes to complete per body part.

Also, if your doctor ordered contrast, then you must arrive 1 hour early to drink the contrast.

### How is it performed?

A technician will ask you to remove any metal objects you may be wearing. Next, you will lie down on a padded scanning table so they can properly position you for the procedure. The table will slowly move through the center of the machine. You may be asked to hold your breath if you are having a chest CT performed.

### What should I do to prepare?

If your doctor ordered contrast for you, then you might be asked to not drink or eat anything other than water for several hours before your procedure. Make sure to wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothing.

Metal objects such as jewelry, eyeglasses, dentures, and hairpins may affect CT images, and should be left home or removed prior to your exam. Make sure to ask your technician about any metal objects if you're unsure whether they can be worn during the exam or not.

### When will my results be ready?

It will take the radiologist 2-3 days to interpret your images and write a report. If anything abnormal is found, we will call you and let you know.

### Anything else I should know?

**If you have kidney or liver problems:** Mentioning your kidney and liver history is important, including whether you have experienced or are now experiencing any problems, including dialysis or a recent liver or kidney transplant. Your history may rule out the use of a contrast agent in your CT system. Blood work may be needed before your CT scan to ensure that you kidneys are working normally.

**If you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant:** During pregnancy, a CT scan should only be performed to address very important problems or suspected abnormalities. Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding, as you might need to pump breast milk beforehand for use during the 23-hour period following the CT scan.



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If for any reason you feel you will be unable to come to your appointment, please call the office at 303-337-5575 and reschedule.