

CT Scan



Computed Axial Tomography is also known as a CT or CAT scan. It is an imaging test that uses X-rays and computerized imagery to make detailed images of the body, including bones, muscles, fat, and organs. All CT technologists are registered with the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists® (ARRT), with advanced registry in Computed Tomography.

Three scanners are in operation at Parkwest: Siemens Force-Dual Source CT scanner, a Siemens Drive-Dual Source CT scanner, and a GE 64-slice VCT (Volume Computed Tomography) scanner.

Contact Information and Hours

(865) 373-1530

Fax: (865) 373-1506

Hours: Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturday, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Services offered

- Cardiac (including TAVR planning, Coronary, and Morphology)
- Vascular-CT angiogram
- Enterography
- Routine head and body
- Orthopedic
- Biopsies and drainages
- 3-D reconstruction/reformation
- Other general CT scans

Exam Information

Patients are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing with minimal jewelry and metal. Some exams may require removal of earrings, necklaces, hair pins, dentures, partials, etc., to ensure quality images.

Always inform the technologist or RN if you are pregnant or may be pregnant.

Upon arrival, patients will be registered and escorted to the outpatient waiting area. If lab work is required, this will be completed prior to the CT exam. A technologist or RN will explain the procedure prior to the exam and answer questions.

Oral and/or IV contrast may be required for the CT exam. If so, our experienced technologists or

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RNs will instruct the patient to drink the oral contrast and/or will start an IV line to administer the contrast. Preparation time varies depending upon the exam.

- IV contrast is used to enhance the organs and vessels.
- Oral contrast is used to differentiate the stomach, small bowel, and colon.
- For many patient 40 oz. of water is used as the oral contrast depending upon how your physician ordered the scan.

Most exams take less than 10 minutes to complete and require minimal preparation. Exams requiring additional time and preparation are as follows:

CT Abdomen/Pelvis: For patients requiring oral contrast, no food or drink for 4 hours prior to the exam.

Biopsies and Drainages: Patients are required to report to the hospital 2 hours prior to their exam. After registration is complete, the patient is taken to radiology holding room for preparation of the exam, i.e. medical history, IV line started if required, site preparation, etc.

Patients requiring sedation or having an invasive procedure must have a driver to take them home. Patients on blood thinners may be required to stop taking the medication prior to the exam. Consult your physician or call Imaging Services before stopping any medication.

If your physician requests copies of your exam, a CD will be provided prior to your discharge.