WHAT IS A COMPUTERIZED TOMOGRAPHY (CT) SCAN

A Computerized Tomography (CT) scan is a diagnostic medical test that uses X-rays to produce detailed, cross-sectional images of the body. CT images of internal organs, bones, soft tissue and blood vessels provide greater detail than traditional X-rays, allowing radiologists to more easily diagnosis problems.

CT GATED STUDY – ANGIO CHEST, ABDOMEN, PELVIS/CORONARY

This scan may include pictures of your chest, abdomen and pelvis. Variations in coverage are determined by your ordering provider but all information is applicable.

WHAT DOES GATED MEAN?

The term 'gated' simply means that your heart rate will be monitored during the scan to ensure the scanner takes pictures of your heart and chest between your heart beats.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Prior to arrival:

- You will be asked to not eat any solids for 4 hours before your scan. Clear liquids are encouraged, if able.
- You will be asked to not have any caffeine 12 hours prior to your scan.
- You may be asked to arrive 1 hour before your scan to meet with a nurse to monitor your heart rate and possibly administer medications to control your heart rate for the scan.
- You may receive a reminder call with more detailed information 24-48 hours prior to your appointment,

Upon arrival:

- You may be asked to change into a gown and robe to remove all metal and allow easy access for IV starts, if needed. Wearing loose, comfortable clothing with no metal may also be acceptable.
- You will need to remove any metal including jewelry & piercings.
- You will be asked to complete a CT screening questionnaire.

INTRAVENOUS (IV) CONTRAST

Intravenous (IV) contrast may be used to highlight the blood vessels and organs in your body. This is injected through an IV started in your arm using a power injector. When administering the IV contrast many people get a metallic taste in their mouth and a warm feeling throughout their body. This goes away as soon as the contrast is finished. If you have an allergy to CT IV contrast, premedication may be required.

EXPLANATION

You will first meet with a nurse or CT Technologist 1 hour before your CT scan who will start an IV and monitor your heart rate and vital signs. Medications may be administered to control your heart rate for the scan.

For the CT, you will be asked to lie flat on the CT table which will rise up and move as you are passed through a large circular machine. You will be hooked up to heart rate monitoring while on the CT table. Intravenous contrast will be injected through the IV to highlight your blood vessels and organs. You will be asked to hold your breath for a short time and to hold very still.

DURATION

The scan may take between 30-60 minutes to complete.

LAB WORK

If your CT requires IV contrast material, you may need blood work (Creatinine/GFR) to evaluate your kidney function and make sure it is safe to give IV contrast. The blood work is done before your scan if you have not had any within 30 days. Inpatients require lab work within 24 hours.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

If any of the following apply to you please let your provider know before your appointment or tell a technologist before the start of the exam.

- Pregnant (or think you may be pregnant)
- Nursing an infant
- Have a known or suspected allergy to CT IV contrast

Per the Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin Imaging policy, children under 18 must be supervised by a responsible adult, which is not the patient.

The Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin health network is an academic system; students, interns, or residents (doctors) may be involved in your care.

All of our caregivers are CT board-certified and state licensed. Our main objective is your comfort and safety.

Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin

9200 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53226

1-800-DOCTORS
(1-800-362-8677)

froedtert.com

PE-02072 (12/18)

CT Scan

Gated Study Angio Chest, Abdomen, Pelvis/Coronary

Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin