



## Preparation for CT Coronary Angiogram

# Scanning Department Radiology

## Great Western Hospital

If you need to cancel or you have queries or concerns please contact the department on

**01793 60 50 51**

Opening Hours

**Monday - Friday 9.00am – 4.30pm**



# Preparation for CT Coronary Angiogram

## **What is a CT Scan?**

A computerised tomography (CT) scan uses X-rays and a computer to create detailed images of the inside of the body.

## **Can I bring a friend or relative or my children?**

Yes. Your relative or friend may come with you to the scanning department, but they may not be able to stay with you for the CT scan. Please note, there are no childcare facilities within Radiology

## **What clothing shall I wear?**

Clothing free of metal fastenings and zips may minimize the need to change, however you may be asked to remove your clothing and put on a hospital gown. Metal and jewellery in the area to be scanned will need to be removed.

You can now watch a video of what happens by visiting us at:

**<http://www.gwh.nhs.uk/wards-and-services/a-to-z/ct-scans/>**

## **Can I take my medicines as usual?**

Yes, continue to take all medicines as normal (except those listed in c) below.

**If you are a diabetic on Metformin, please contact the CT Scanning Department. We will need to give you instructions about its use following your scan**



# Preparation for CT Coronary Angiogram

## **Do I need to do anything before I come in?**

- a) Avoid caffeine (tea, coffee, cola) from midnight the day before the scan
- b) Do not eat or drink anything for one hour before your scan
- c) Do not take Sildenafil (Viagra), Tadalafil (Cialis), Vardenafil (Levitra) or Avanafil (Staxyn) three days before your scan appointment.
- d) Bring a list of medicines you are taking to your appointment.

## **Are there any risks?**

In rare instances, some people may have an allergic reaction to the contrast dye

During your procedure you will receive a dose of ionising radiation to help us form images of your body and this will provide your doctor with detailed information. The radiation dose is always kept as low as possible. The actual dose you receive will vary depending on the type of procedure you are having, but your doctor has considered this and feels that this is the best procedure for you to have to help diagnose or treat your condition.

We are all at risk of developing cancer in our lifetime and the added risk from undergoing your procedure is small and is outweighed because of the benefits it provides and every procedure that you have in Radiology has been assessed to ensure that the benefit outweighs the



# Preparation for CT Coronary Angiogram

risk. For more information see the displays within the department or ask a member of staff.

## What happens during the CT scan?

- The scan usually takes about 10-20 minutes to complete, but can take up to an hour including preparation time.
- You'll usually lie on your back on a table that passes into the CT scanner.
- Your heart rate will be monitored during the scan.
- Your heart rate needs to be slow and steady (about 63 beats a minute) for the scan to take place. Depending on your heart rate, beta blockers may be given via a vein in your arm. If too fast or irregular we may not be able to complete the scan.
- A contrast dye, often iodine, will be injected into a vein in your arm. This contrast dye highlights your blood vessels and creates clearer pictures.
- The radiographer will operate the scanner from the next room.
- While the scan is taking place, you may be asked to hold your breath for a few seconds whilst the table moves through the scanner.



# Preparation for CT Coronary Angiogram

## What happens after?

If you were given beta blockers you will need to remain in the department for up to 20 minutes after the scan. You may eat and drink normally.

## How will I know the results of the CT scan?

- The results will not be available on the day because the Radiologist will need to study your images and write a report.
- You will receive a letter or follow up appointment from the clinic to discuss the results
- If your General Practitioner requested the scan, please visit the surgery for your results

## What if I am pregnant or breast feeding?

Please contact the booking office on the telephone number below.

## Are there any weight restrictions?

If you weigh more than 140kg (22 stone) then please let us know.

## What if I need to change or cancel my CT Scan?

Ring 01793 605051    Monday - Friday 9.00am - 4.30pm



# Preparation for CT Coronary Angiogram

From 1st January 2019 smoking will not be permitted on any NHS site in England. Smoking will not be permitted within any of our buildings or anywhere outside on our sites. Smoking facilities will not be provided. Please be considerate of others when vaping in hospital grounds

**This information sheet is available to order in other languages and formats. If you would like a copy, please contact us on 01793 604031 or email [gwh.pals@nhs.net](mailto:gwh.pals@nhs.net)**

#### **Document Control**

Division: Diagnostics & Outpatients  
Department: Radiology & Scanning  
Approved Date: 9 July 2018  
Next Review Date: August 2021  
Document Number: D&O - PIL0139