



Welcome to the OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center CT Department.
You have been scheduled to have a **CT Abdomen and/or Pelvis**.

This information will help you understand the test that has been scheduled.
Thank you for trusting OSF for your medical imaging needs.

You have been scheduled to have a CT scan, sometimes called CAT scanning. This is a diagnostic test using X-ray and a computer to produce pictures of the inside of the body. CT scans provide more details than regular X-ray exams

The CT scanner looks like a big square with a hole in the middle, but the scanner does not touch you. You will lie on a table that slides in and out of the hole. You will hear a slight noise when the X-ray tube is rotating around inside the big square. The OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center CT scanner is large enough to accommodate a 500 pound patient.

When to come:

Please arrive 15 minutes before your appointment time to check in.

What to bring with you:

You may have had images done at a hospital other than OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center. Please bring copies of the pictures with you the day of the test. You may also request that the doctor's office send the pictures or results to OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center before your test.

Preparation:

Will depend on what your doctor is looking for on your test. You may need to drink CT barium. For your convenience this CT barium may be picked up at the OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center, OSF Center for Health - Rock Cut or some OSF physician offices. This will allow you to drink the CT barium at home in order to prepare you for your CT test.

If you choose to drink the CT barium at OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center or OSF Center for Health – Rock Cut instead of at home, you will need to arrive two hours prior to your test time.

You may be asked to have no food or drinks for four hours prior to your CT appointment. However, you may have clear liquids until 1 hour prior to the test.

Jewelry:

Please remove all jewelry prior to your test.

Pregnancy testing:

Pregnancy testing will now be performed on females receiving diagnostics between the ages of 10 and 55 if you have not had your tubes tied or a hysterectomy. Home pregnancy tests are not acceptable. If you know that you are pregnant, please notify your doctor.

Medications:

You may take medications with 2 to 3 sips of water.

If you are diabetic and take Metformin - containing medication, you may be asked to stop taking your Metformin medication 48 hours after your CT exam. Your CT technologist will give you specific instructions regarding your Metformin medication.

Allergies:

You may receive IV contrast as part of this test. If you have any known allergy to iodine or X-ray dye, please contact your ordering doctor. You may need to take special medications before having this test.

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**SAINT ANTHONY
MEDICAL CENTER**

CT Department
815-227-2723 or 815-639-8332

Test Name:
CT Abdomen and/or Pelvis

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Test instruction:

You may be asked to wear a hospital gown for your test. Your CT test will take approximately 15-45 minutes.

The registered technologist will position you comfortably on the CT table. You will be lying on your back, and you may be asked to keep your hands over your head.

The table will move you slowly through the middle of the scanner. You may be asked to hold your breath for a second or two during the scanning. Any motion, whether breathing or body movements, can cause the picture to be blurry.

If you need to have the IV contrast for your test, it will be given by the technologist through an IV in your arm. During the injection of the contrast material, you may have a warm, flushed sensation for a minute. You may also experience a sensation like you have to urinate, but this feeling goes away quickly. Some patients say they have a metallic taste in their mouths for a few minutes after the injection of the contrast material.

After test instructions:

You may go on as normal for the rest of the day. Please drink plenty of fluids if you were required to drink CT barium and/or received IV contrast.

Test results:

Your test will be read by a radiologist - a doctor specializing in reading CT exams - who will complete a report that will be sent to your ordering doctor. You can make plans with your ordering doctor on how to receive your test results.