

## What is Computed Tomography or CT?

Computed Tomography, also referred to as CT or Cat Scan, was developed in 1967 and has revolutionized diagnostic medical imaging.

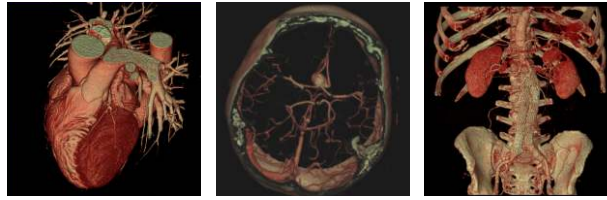
CT is a method of body imaging using x-ray beams that rotate around the patient. Small detectors take measurements from various angles around the body and then use a computer to process or correlate the information to produce cross-sectional images of organs and tissue within the body.

Today, CT technology is an indispensable tool in medicine and is commonly used for routine examinations throughout the entire human body.

## Is CT Safe?

Yes. CT does involve exposure to radiation in the form of x-rays, but the benefits and information obtained from the procedure greatly outweighs the risk involved.

Our Siemens Sensation system utilizes special technology which significantly reduces the amount of radiation exposure.



## How Should I Prepare for My Exam?

- Wear comfortable shoes and clothing, no jewelry or metal
- Clothing should be without metal zippers or snaps
- Drink plenty of fluids beginning 24 hours before your exam
- Do not eat or drink anything by mouth 6 hours prior to your exam
- Some CT exams require you to arrive 1 hour and 15 minutes early so that you can begin the oral contrast before your exam.
- Notify your physician if you suspect that you may be pregnant
- Leave all valuables at home
- Arrive on time
- Relax and know that you will be cared for by licensed and highly trained professionals who care about your well-being.

## Is CT Covered by Insurance?

Yes. CT plays an integral part in medical imaging and therefore most insurance companies cover CT studies for a multitude of indications. Please contact your insurance provider for verification of coverage.

For additional information or questions regarding our CT system, please feel free to contact our scheduling department at (949) 760-3025.

## What Can I Expect During My Exam?

Upon arrival, certain patients may be required to drink an oral contrast mixture which allows the radiologist to better visualize different organ structures within the abdomen. Some patients may find the contrast material unpleasant, but most are able to tolerate it quite easily.

When you enter the CT suite you will be asked to lie down on a table that slides into the large opening of a "donut-shaped" system. Depending on the type of exam requested by your physician, contrast dye may be administered by injection. The scanner will rotate around you while acquiring pictures (in the form of data) specific to the area of interest. Computers then take the data acquired and convert them into visual images or films for your physician to view.

Our technologist will be able to maintain both voice and visual contact with you throughout your procedure. Typical exams times range from 10 to 20 minutes.



## How Will I Feel After My Exam ?

You should feel fine as the exam is painless. Some exams require intravenous contrast dye and patients may feel a warming sensation from the injected contrast media. You should not be alarmed as this is quite normal.

## What are the Benefits of CT?

- The exam is safe, painless, non-invasive, and accurate
- Provides rapid and detailed cross-sectional imaging
- Images can be reconstructed to provide 3D representations
- Often used for diagnosing many types of diseases, including cancer
- Effectively evaluates certain conditions of the brain, chest, abdomen, and spine
- Used to image a variety of body parts and conditions
- May eliminate the need for future invasive testing
- Cost-effective

## What Are the Common Uses of CT?

- Detecting strokes, head injuries, herniated disks and abscesses
- Locating fractures
- Diagnosing changes in various organs
- Diagnosing or excluding diseases

## Facts About Newport Diagnostic Center:

- Established in 1991
- Highly respected board certified and fellowship trained interpreting physicians
- First outpatient PET center on the Pacific Coast and the first in Orange County to perform whole-body oncology studies (1991)
- First center in Orange County to offer Dedicated PET/CT (2002)
- Offers and utilizes the latest technology for superior patient treatment and care

## NDC Services

### Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

- MR Angiography
- Perfusion/Diffusion for acute stroke imaging
- MR Cardiac Imaging
- MR Spectroscopy
- MRCP

### Computed Tomography (CT)

- Calcium Scoring
- Virtual Colonoscopy
- CT Angiography
- Cardiac and Coronary Artery Imaging

### Nuclear Medicine

- PET/CT
- SPECT/CT
- Tumor Localization
- Thyroid and Parathyroid Evaluation
- Myocardial Perfusion and Viability
- Bone Imaging

### Women's Center

- Breast MRI
- MRI Guided Breast Biopsies
- Stereotactic Breast Biopsies
- Digital Mammography
- Bone Densitometry (DEXA)
- Complete Ultrasound Capabilities

### Radiology

- Myelogram
- Arthrogram
- Fluoroscopy
- Digital X-Ray

### Cardiology

- Echocardiogram
- Treadmill Stress Test
- Holter Monitor
- Nuclear Cardiology

### CyberKnife – Stereotactic Radiosurgery

- Treatment of Malignant Tumors
- Treatment of Benign Tumors
- Functional Disorders (Trigeminal Neuralgia)
- Vascular Malformations
- Ability to Treat in the Brain and Spine

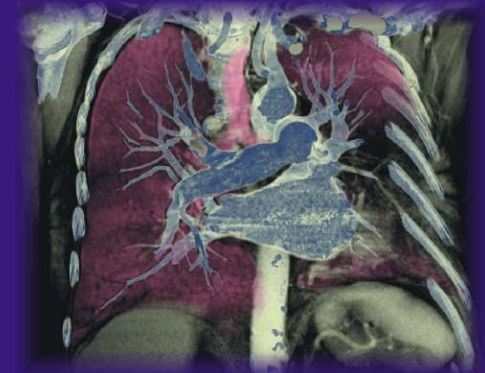
## Newport Diagnostic Center

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[www.newportdiagnosticcenter.com](http://www.newportdiagnosticcenter.com)

# Computed Tomography



## Patient Information



Medical Imaging Excellence — Comprehensive Care