

Hämeenlinna unit, Radiology department

Patient instructions for a computed tomography scan of the head

You have an appointment for a **computed tomography scan** at the Kanta-Häme Central Hospital Hämeenlinna unit Radiology department.

Be sure to **arrive 15 minutes before your appointment** at the Radiology department to allow time for preparations.

Upon arriving, register at the **radiology** office on the 1st floor. Follow the signposts.

If you need to cancel your appointment, please call the outpatient clinic at (03) 6291 (exchange).

- If you suspect or know that you are pregnant, contact the outpatient clinic.
- If you are breastfeeding, call the Radiology department on the date before your appointment at (03) 629 4583.
- If you are hypersensitive to iodinated contrast agents, notify the radiographer before the scan.
- Your required bloodwork should be taken before the computed tomography scan
- Do not eat for 2 hours before the scan. Drinking water is permitted.
- If you are treated for diabetes with metformin, the medication should be paused for two days before and after the scan. Metformin is found in medication such as:

Competact	Komboglyze	Oramet hexal
Diformin retard	Metforem	Synjardy
Eucreas	Metformin actavis	Velmetia
Glucophage	Metformin stada	Vipdomet
Janumet	Metformin vitabalans	Xigduo
Jentadueto	Oramet	

- Other regular medication may be continued normally.
- Please be prepared for slight delays in your appointment time due to possible urgent emergency radiology examinations.
- In the computed tomography scan, x-rays are used to produce cross-sectional images of the part of body. The procedure is painless. During the procedure, you must remain as motionless as possible to avoid the blurring of images. The radiographer will be able to speak, hear and see you during the scan
- Typically, an iodinated contrast agent is used in the scan intravenously by means of a cannula in your arm vein. The contrast agent improves the visibility of blood vessels and tissue. The contrast agent can cause a temporary feeling of warmth and a metallic taste.
- Even if a contrast agent is used, you can still drive home or return to work for the day.
- You will receive the scan results from your doctor. If you have not received an appointment or phone consultation time, please contact the unit from which you received the referral.
- The cost of the scan is included in the outpatient clinic fee.

K-HKS 4794_E .11.18
JA/SMU/RH/TM