

# Ct Scan

## What Is A Ct Scan?

CT (computerised tomography) is a special type of X-ray that creates detailed cross-sectional images of the inside of your body. The scanner is shaped like a large doughnut, and you will pass through it on a couch while the machine takes images.

CT scans produce over 600 high-resolution images, allowing doctors to examine your organs, tissues, and blood vessels in 2D and 3D views. This helps in diagnosing conditions, planning treatments, and monitoring recovery after surgery or cancer therapy.

At the Midlands Bowel Clinic, we use state-of-the-art multi-detector CT machines to provide fast and accurate results.

## Why Might You Need A Ct Scan?

A CT scan is performed for many reasons, including:

- Diagnosing underlying conditions affecting the bowel and abdominal organs
- Checking for tumours, inflammation, or infections
- Monitoring cancer treatment progress
- Assessing surgical outcomes and follow-ups

## Types Of Ct Scans We Perform

### CT abdomen and pelvis (GI CT)

- Used for initial assessment and follow-ups
- Involves drinking oral contrast the night before and one hour before the scan
- Provides detailed images of the bowel, abdomen, and pelvis

## CT chest

- Often included in abdominal scans to check for abnormalities in the lungs
- Commonly performed as part of cancer follow-up care

## CT colonography (CTC)

- A minimally invasive alternative to colonoscopy
- Specifically examines the large bowel (colon)
- Uses a special gas to inflate the bowel for clearer imaging
- [Click here to read more about CT colonography](#)

## How To Prepare For A Ct Scan

- **Fasting** – You may need to avoid eating for 4 hours before the scan
- **Arrival time** – You should arrive at the radiology department 1 hour before your appointment
- **CT colonography preparation** – If you are having a CTC scan, follow the specific preparation instructions provided by your consultant. Further information can be found on our CT colonography page.

## What Happens During The Scan?

- You will be asked to wear a hospital gown and remove metal objects such as jewellery
- You will drink around 1 litre of dilute contrast fluid to help outline the bowel

- A small cannula will be inserted into a vein in your arm
- A contrast dye will be injected during the scan to highlight your organs and blood vessels
- You will lie on a movable couch, which will pass through the CT scanner
- The scan itself takes only a few minutes, but you may be in the department for up to an hour

## Are There Any Risks?

CT scans are safe and commonly performed. The contrast dye may cause a warm sensation or a metallic taste, but this is temporary. If you have a history of allergies or kidney problems, inform the radiology team before your scan.

## Why Choose The Midlands Bowel Clinic?

- **State-of-the-art CT technology** for fast and detailed results
- **Highly experienced radiology specialists**
- **Personalised imaging protocols** to suit your medical needs
- **Quick appointments and minimal waiting times**

## Contact Us

If you need a CT scan or have any questions about this investigation, please contact us. Our team is here to help.