

Appointment Information

Date: _____

Time: _____

Study: _____

We request that you **arrive 15 minutes prior** to your appointment time for registration purposes.

The ANMC Radiology Department is located on the first floor of the ANMC hospital next to the Emergency Room.

Elmore Road

Ambassador Drive

Tudor Centre Drive



Diplomacy Drive

Tudor Road

Please contact us if you have questions:
(907) 729-2300



ALASKA NATIVE
MEDICAL CENTER



Alaska Native Medical Center
4315 Diplomacy Drive
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Alaska Native Medical Center

CT

Patient Information



ALASKA NATIVE
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What is Computed Tomography?

It is commonly referred to as CAT Scan or CT Scan.

A CT scan is a combination of X-ray views taken from different angles. A computer processes the information to create cross-sectional images of the bones and soft tissue inside your body. The resulting images can be compared to looking down at a slice of bread. In some cases, CT images can be combined to create 3-D images of the area being scanned.

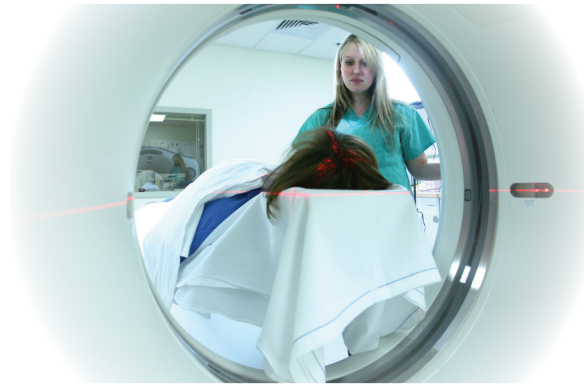
CT scans have many uses. A CT scan may be used to visualize nearly all parts of the body.

Why do doctors recommend a CT scan?

CT scans are painless, fast and simple. They produce highly detailed images that diagnose many disease processes. Doctors recommend CT scans to evaluate potential problems in areas such as:

- Brain
- Abdomen and pelvis
- Chest
- Blood vessels

CT scans are also used to assist in procedures such as biopsies, injections or fluid removal.



How to prepare for your CT scan

Depending on the part of the body being scanned, you may be required to drink a contrast media. This contrast helps to highlight the stomach and intestines on the images.

If you are required to drink contrast for your CT scan, you will not be able eat or drink anything for at least four hours prior to the CT scan. If you are over 60 years of age, have diabetes or poor kidney function, you may need a blood test prior to your CT scan. This test is called a Creatinine level and can be obtained either at the hospital or in the clinic.

What happens during the CT scan?

The CT machine itself looks like a large donut which is open on both sides. You will lie on a long table that moves in and out of the machine to

take pictures. The entire test takes 5-20 minutes, depending on what type of scan is being performed. The machine talks and will give you instruction on when to hold your breath and to breathe during the scan. While in the CT room, the technologist might insert an intravenous catheter (IV) into your vein to administer IV contrast. Iodine is the main ingredient of the contrast solution. If you have any allergy to iodine, you need to speak with your doctor or the technologist before your CT scan.

The administration of the contrast solution is essential for the diagnosis of many diseases. When injected, the contrast solution will normally make you feel warm and flush and leave a metallic taste in your mouth. This normally goes away in 1-2 minutes.

What happens after your CT scan?

If contrast solution is administered for your test, you will be asked to drink lots of water for the next 48 hours to help flush out the contrast solution. The contrast solution that is injected into your bloodstream will be absorbed by your body without any side effects.