

# EURACARE

## PATIENT INFORMATION FORM

### CT SCAN

A computed tomography (CT) scan uses X-rays to make detailed pictures of parts of your body and the structures inside your body. The pictures taken can be looked at individually or formed into 3-dimensional images.

#### **Preparation**

Please have nothing to eat for two hours prior to your examination. You can drink normally.

#### **Procedure**

This scan shows the organs and structures within the body and its essential that you keep perfectly still during the short scanning time. It might be necessary to give a small injection of a colourless dye into your arm to show up these blood vessels within the area being scanned. The dye may make you feel a little hot and flushed and you may get a bitter taste in your mouth, but this passes off very quickly.

After your contrast injection drink a good amount of water to help to eliminate the contrast from your body.

People with diabetes taking METFORMIN (also known as Glucophage) tablets, should omit them on the day of the examination. If you are **not** given an injection of dye during your scan, please discuss with the radiographer when to restart your metformin.

People with diabetes that are dependent on insulin should continue with their treatment as normal.

Before your scan you might be asked to undress and put on a gown. Our hospital does provide dressing gowns, but you can bring your own if you wish.

For the scan you will be asked to lie on a couch, and this will pass through the scanner. The scanner resembles a large polo mint lying on its side. The machine will not touch you and you will not be enclosed. You will also be in contact with the radiographer at all times.

The examination will take approximately 30 minutes in total.

#### **For women of Childbearing Age**

We must be informed of all cases of known or suspected pregnancy at the earliest opportunity. This examination may need to be carried out within the first ten days of your menstrual cycle. When you telephone the call centre please let us know when your next period is due so that we can arrange your appointment accordingly.

All our staff at the Euracare centre are governed by strict rules of confidentiality. This means that no one will discuss your details except as part of your examination and treatment.