

Preparing for a CT Scan with Oral Contrast

You have an appointment for a computed tomography (CT) scan with oral contrast. Oral contrast is a liquid you drink before the scan. It makes the scan easier for your doctors to read.

This factsheet contains instructions to help you prepare for the CT scan.

Before the Scan

Get two bottles of oral contrast liquid from the radiology clinic on the 3rd floor of the Huntsman Cancer Institute hospital. The clinic staff will mark the bottles with times and amounts according to your scan time.

- You can pick up the bottles any day before your scan appointment. Keep them in the refrigerator until it is time to start drinking the contrast.
- If you pick up the bottles the same day as your scan, check with the radiology clinic 2 hours before the scan time.

Day of the Scan

- Do not eat or drink anything for 3 hours before the scan time.
- Start drinking the oral contrast 1½ hours before the scan time. Follow the schedule the radiology staff marked on the bottles.
- Check in at the radiology clinic 15 minutes before your scan time if you picked up the oral contrast before your scan day.

If You Have Questions

Call the radiology clinic at 801-587-4480. You can also call your cancer care team:
