**CT Abdomen**

**Planning ahead:**

* You may need to have blood drawn before having this exam.
* If you are allergic to the iodine contrast used in the CT scan, your physician must provide you with medication for this, which you will usually take 24 hours ahead of time. Your physician may call our department and speak to a radiologist with any questions about this.
* If you are allergic to the contrast and arrive for your exam without having taken the medication, we will likely have to reschedule your CT for another day.
* **Do not eat, drink, or smoke anything at all for four hours before the exam.** You may take your regular medications with a sip of water.
* **Arrive at the hospital** **one hour before your CT is scheduled**. Be sure to ask the scheduler what time the actual exam is scheduled.

***Bring to the hospital when you come for your exam*:**

* Complete list of medications you are currently taking – name, dosage, and schedule for each medication.
* Written physician’s order for the test.

***On the day of your exam*:**

* Wear comfortable clothing with no metal around the waist area.
* Come in through the main entrance of Mon General Hospital and to the Radiology Services registration desk, down the hallway to the right.
* Plan to be at the hospital for approximately two hours.

***One hour before your exam:***

* The nurse will give you oral contrast to drink, start an IV, and/or draw blood, as necessary, before imaging begins.

***After the exam*:**

* If you receive IV contrast, do not take any drug containing metformin for 48 hours after the IV contrast injection.

For more information on CT Abdomen, visit <http://healthlibrary.mongeneral.com/Search/92,P07690>

If you have any questions or concerns, call the Mon General CT Department at (304) 598-1280.