CT examination of the chest

You have received a request for a CT examination. The unit responsible for your care will inform you of the time and place of the examination.

Duration of the examination is approximately 10 minutes. The radiology department also examines emergency patients, which may cause changes to the schedule. Please reserve 60 minutes for the examination.

Preparation for examination
- You must abstain from eating for 2 hours before the examination.
- You are allowed to drink.
- Take medication prescribed to you by your doctor according to instructions.

If you are hypersensitive to iodine-bearing contrast medium or you are/suspect you might be pregnant, please inform of this to the treating doctor or radiographer before the procedure.

If you are a peritoneal dialysis patient, please empty the dialysis fluid from the abdominal cavity for the duration of the scan.

Examination
X-ray computed tomography (CT) forms cross-sectional images of the targeted area using x-rays. The procedure is painless. During the examination, you need to lie still as motion causes image distortion. The radiographer will be able to talk to you, hear and see you during the scan.

When needed, iodinated contrast medium is administered intravenously through an IV catheter on the hand or elbow. The contrast medium improves the visibility of blood vessels and different tissues. The contrast medium may cause a momentary sensation of warmth and sometimes metallic taste in the mouth. The contrast medium will excrete through the urine.

After the examination
Your treating doctor will inform you of the results of the examination. If you have not already been booked for an appointment or for a phone consultation, please contact the unit treating you in order to obtain the results.

Other things to note
Please take your health insurance card (Kela card) or identity card with you.

A separate fee will be charged for examinations which have not been cancelled.

These instructions are on the HUS website: www.hus-imaging.fi > Examinations > Computed Tomography.

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