CT scan of a surgical seam in the rectum with contrast agent

Your doctor has referred you for CT examination. The treating unit will inform you of the time and place of the examination.

Please reserve 60 minutes for the examination. The actual examination takes approximately 15 minutes, but in some cases, emergency examinations cause changes to the examination schedule.

Preparation for examination

- Do not eat anything for 2 hours before the examination.
- Drinking liquids (water or juice) up until the examination is recommended. However, do not drink coffee or tea because they increase the heart rate.
- Continue to take any medication prescribed by your doctor.

If you are hypersensitive to iodine-bearing contrast medium or you are/suspect you might be pregnant, please inform of this to your 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

Computed tomography scan uses X-rays, and the scan provides information on the coronary arteries and the heart's structure.

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.

For a CT scan of the surgical seam in the rectum, a contrast agent will be inserted into your rectum with the tip of a thin tube while you lie on the examination table. The contrast agent is used to check if the seam is intact.

Often, iodine-rich contrast medium is administered intravenously in connection with the the contrast medium improves the visibility of blood vessels and different tissues. The contrast medium may cause a momentary sensation of warmth and possibly metallic taste in the mouth. The contrast medium will excrete through the urine.

After the examination

The contrast agent does not prevent you from driving a car and returning to work after the examination.

The doctor in charge of your care 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 missed examinations which have not been cancelled beforehand.