

**Central Ohio Primary Care  
Radiology Department**



**CENTRAL OHIO  
PRIMARY CARE**

**SPINE CT**

**What is a CT Scan?**

A CT Scan (also known as a “CAT Scan” for “Computed Axial Tomography”) is a diagnostic test that combines the use of X-Rays with computer technology. A series of X-Ray beams from many different angles are used to create cross-sectional images of the body. These images are assembled into a three dimensional picture that can display organs, bones and tissues in great detail.

**How should I prepare for the procedure?**

- **Spine:**  
No Prep.

Any woman who is pregnant should inform her doctor before scheduling this examination.

**How is the procedure performed?**

The CT scanner consists of a large donut shaped machine and x-ray table. You will lie on the table and be slowly moved into the large opening as a series of pictures are taken. You may be given an injection of IV dye (contrast), which improves the visibility of structures within the body. We ask that you lie very still and follow the instructions of the technologist while the scan is being performed. The exam will take approximately 20 minutes from the time you lie on the CT table.

**What are my instructions after the exam?**

You have no restrictions after the CT scan and can resume normal activities.

**When do I get the results?**

Once the examination is completed, the CT images will be studied by the radiologist and compared to any previous x-rays of the same area you may have had taken previously. Please allow a few days for your physician to follow up with you regarding the results of your test.

**What do I do if I have further questions?**

In case you experience an emergency following the examination call 911. If you have any other questions before or after your appointment, please feel free to call our radiology department at 614-273-0411 option 5 or toll free at 1-877-273-0450.