

CT SPINES

Patient's Name: _____

You have an appointment in the Radiology Department on:

Date: _____ Time: _____

Note to Outpatients:

Please arrive 15 minutes early to allow for registration. If you are unable to keep the appointment, please call St. Paul's at 604-806-8071 or Mt. St. Joseph's at 604-877-8323 with at least 24 hours notice to cancel or rebook your test for another day. Childcare is not available in the department.

For Your Information

Introduction

CT of the spine is most commonly used when a disc herniation is suspected. The intervertebral disc spaces are clearly and accurately demonstrated on CT scans, as are the bony structures of the vertebrae. It can also be used to identify narrowing of the spinal canal, vertebral fractures, infection, arthritis or degenerative disc disease.

Procedure

You will be asked to change into hospital gowns for this test. You will be asked to lay on the CT table for 5-10 minutes during which time you must lay as still as possible. You may be given x-ray contrast through an IV started in your arm. Some people feel warm and get a metallic taste in their mouth during the injection

Preparation

- IV in arm
- Patient will wear a hospital gown.

Results

We send your test results to your doctor as soon as possible. If your doctor does not have your results within two weeks, please ask your doctor to contact us.

**** Please inform the technologist if you have any allergies or may be pregnant. ****