



St. Mary-Corwin Medical Center



1008 Minnequa Avenue
 Pueblo, Colorado 81004
 Phone: 719-557-4000
 Toll Free: 800-228-4039
www.stmarycorwin.org

Name: _____

Appointment Date: _____

Appointment Time: _____

Important Information About Your CT Scan



Welcome to St. Mary-Corwin Medical Center for your CT scan. Computerized tomography (CT) is a safe, painless way to obtain detailed images of your body. CT is an X-ray technique that shows internal structures in cross sections, rather than overlapping images produced by conventional X-rays.

CT scans use a rotating X-ray unit in combination with a computer to create cross-sectional images (slices) of the inside of your body. CT scans provide greater clarity than conventional X-ray exams.

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Estimated time

Your CT scan may take 30 to 60 minutes. Emergency room patients may delay your start time.

What to wear

Wear comfortable clothing without snaps or zippers as they can degrade image quality. Do not wear jewelry as it can also interfere with the scan.

Coming to the hospital

Please arrive 30 minutes early for registration. Enter the hospital through the west main entrance (see map on back). Check in at the registration desk. You will then proceed to the radiology department. Bring your insurance card and a photo ID. Insurance co-payments are expected at time of service.

Parking

Parking at the hospital is limited. For your convenience, St. Mary-Corwin is pleased to provide free valet parking services at the west main entrance.

Pre-registration

You can save time by pre-registering online or by phone up to one day prior to your exam. To pre-register online, simply log onto stmarycorwin.org and select the pre-register icon. To pre-register by phone, call (719) 557-4444, press option #2.

Preparation

Do not eat one hour before your test. You may drink water up to two hours prior to the exam. Most CT scans require an IV contrast, so we encourage you to stay hydrated, which creates better images.

Other considerations

Pregnancy

Because CT scans use X-rays, it is crucial to inform your technologists if there is any possibility of pregnancy or if you are pregnant.

Claustrophobia

If you are claustrophobic, talk with your physician.

Iodine allergy

Contrast material with iodine may be used with your scan. Inform your doctor and technologist if you are allergic to iodine and the reaction you experience. You may need a prescription to take prior to your exam.

Contrast material

If contrast is required, your technologist will administer intravenously (IV) at the time of your scan. Oral contrast (swallowed) is given one to two hours prior to your scan.

Laboratory

Your doctor may request blood work prior to your CT scan. Blood work is required within 30 days of the exam for IV contrasted studies if you are over 55 years-old, diabetic, have hypertension or kidney disease. If you need blood drawn, the lab is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. No appointment is necessary. (See map on back panel).

Post-exam instructions

Please drink four to five glasses of water or fruit juices (if your diet allows) to help flush the IV and oral contrast out of your system. If you are on fluid restrictions, please follow your doctor's orders.

Diabetics on Glucophage/Glucoavance

If you take Glucophage/Glucoavance, please talk with your doctor prior to your exam as there are safety precautions necessary with this medication. Discontinue medication 48 hours after contrast injection. It is highly recommended that you contact your physician for follow up blood work prior to resuming medication.

Superior Service

St. Mary-Corwin Medical Center is home to southern Colorado's most innovative imaging technologies. Such advancements redefine the way doctors diagnose and treat many illnesses.

St. Mary-Corwin's radiology department features board-certified physicians, trained at institutions of excellence – compassionate specialists at the cutting-edge of diagnostic imaging. Our radiology technologists bring you the highest level of experience and expertise, and insure only the best imaging results are achieved.

St. Mary-Corwin also features the only team of radiology nurses in southern Colorado trained specifically for the imaging department. Radiology nurses demonstrate clinical skills and imaging technology knowledge to anticipate and plan for your needs. Our quality of care offers you the best patient experience.