

CT Abdomen with Contrast or CT Abdomen Combined

Patient: _____

Appointment Date: _____ Time: _____ am / pm

Location: Diagnostic Imaging Department at Mankato Clinic
1230 East Main Street, Mankato, MN 56001

Before the Exam:

This exam is a specialized x-ray of the organs located between your lower lungs and hips.

Before scheduling your exam, please tell your provider if you are:

- Pregnant or think you may be pregnant.
- Allergic to intravenous (IV) contrast (x-ray dye) - You may need to take special medication before your exam. A lab value may need to be drawn before your exam to check for kidney function.
- Diabetic - Your provider will instruct you about taking your diabetes medications. Some medications need to be stopped after the exam.

Diet instructions will be given to you at the time of scheduling your appointment.

During the Exam:

- The CT scanner is a large machine that is shaped like a donut.
- You will be asked to undress. A gown will be provided.
- You will be asked to lie on your back on the scanning table.
- Your arms will be placed above your head.
- An intravenous needle (IV) will be inserted in your arm. If you have a regular port, it cannot be used for the contrast injection. **Power Ports** may be used if they are power injectable. Please bring documentation stating that the port is power injectable which will allow us to use it.
- During the scan, contrast will be injected through the IV to better visualize your arteries, veins and organs. You may possibly get warm through your body and get an odd "metal taste" from the contrast.

After the Exam:

- You may resume your regular diet unless you have been given other instructions.
- You may experience some diarrhea from a drink given to you 45 minutes prior to your exam.
- Drink plenty of water for the remainder of the day to flush the contrast out of your system.
- Contact your provider immediately if you experience redness or swelling at your IV site.

Your exam will be reviewed and read by a Radiologist within the next 24 hours. A report will go to your provider for him/her to review. Your provider is responsible for communicating the results to you and this will be done by letter, a phone call, or a follow up appointment. If you don't have a follow up appointment scheduled and have not heard anything within a week, you have the right to call your provider's department and inquire about results.

If you are unable to keep your appointment or have questions about your exam, please call 507-389-8570.

Please check in at Patient Registration prior to going to the Diagnostic Imaging Department.