

MANKATO CLINIC DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS

CT Head with Contrast or CT Head Combined

Patient: _____

Appointment Date: _____ **Time:** _____ am / pm

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

Before the Exam:

A head CT is a specialized x-ray of the organs that are from the bottom of your head to the top of your skull.

Before scheduling your exam, please tell your physician/health care 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 not be asked to undress for this exam.
- You will be asked to remove head jewelry, and hearing aids.
- You will be asked to lie on your back on the scanning table.
- You will go into the scanner head first.
- You will not be given anything to drink.
- You will be given an IV injection through an IV started in your arm.
- Your images will be reviewed and read by a radiologist.
- The final signed report will be sent to the provider that ordered your exam.

After the Exam:

- You may resume your regular diet unless you have been given other instructions.
- Contact your physician/health care 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.