A GUIDE FOR PATIENTS

CT Small Bowel Study

For information regarding your appointment, please see the back of this leaflet.

Leaders in Medical Imaging
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What is a CT Small Bowel Study?

Your doctor has requested a specialised CT scan examination of the small intestine – a Small Bowel Study.

Before the CT

Before the examination your diet must be restricted to enable the bowel to be cleaned of residue, otherwise the examination may not be completely satisfactory.

Please call into our clinic to make an appointment and collect your preparation.

Preparation Information

Day before examination:

> Evening meal - A light meal before 7pm.
> At 8pm - Mix the contents of the PICCOLAX sachet with 120mls of water. Drink all of this mixture followed by the two (2) large glasses of clear fluids.
> Have nothing to eat after drinking the laxative.
> Clear fluids may be taken throughout the evening to satisfy thirst.
> From midnight nothing to eat, sips of water for thirst.

On the day of the examination

In most cases, on arriving at the clinic for your scan, you will be given a special solution to drink over the course of one hour – the solution coats and outlines the small bowel. Just before the CT scan itself, you will be given an intravenous injection of a contrast dye which will help provide additional information to the Radiologist (doctor). The CT scan is very quick and should take no longer than 15 minutes.

Occasionally your doctor may ask specifically for a `CT Enterocolysis` small bowel study. This involves putting the solution directly into the stomach via a small tube (rather than drinking it). The tube is inserted into the nose after a spray of local anaesthetic to minimise discomfort. The tube is then guided to the correct position by the Radiologist and the solution is run through this tube into the bowel while you are lying on the CT scanner.

Please bring any previous imaging with you on the day of your examination. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask us!