

Radiology Imaging Services

801 7th Ave
Fort Worth, Texas 76104
682-885-4076

What is a CT scan?

A CT or CAT scan takes special pictures of the body using X-rays. CT can show certain diseases, head injuries and many other medical conditions.

How we do a CT scan

A member of our Radiology team will meet with you. We will ask about your child's medical history, explain the procedure and answer your questions.

CT scanner is a large donut-shaped machine.



Your child will:

- Lie down on a table that slides into the scanner.
- Stay very still during the pictures.

With some tests we ask your child to drink a special liquid. Sometimes we give intravenous (IV) medicine. An IV uses a very tiny tube placed in your child's vein.

Please ask us about our Comfort Menu.

During the scan the CT camera makes a funny noise. Your child does not feel anything during the scan.

Will my child be sedated?

CT exams are very sensitive to movement.

- It is important for your child to lie very still while we take the pictures.
- Your child may need sedation if they are young or have a hard time holding still.
- Your child's doctor will order sedation when the CT scan is scheduled.

If your child needs sedation a nurse will call you for additional medical information. Our Radiology Nurse will also call you with special preparation instructions the day before your appointment.

Helping your child understand

A Child Life Specialist may be available to explain the procedure to your child. They use special words, toys, and games developed for each age group. This helps children better understand what happens during the exam. Child Life also helps children to relax and cope by using comforting stories and calming exercises.

Let us know if you or a member of your family would like to visit with a Child Life Specialist before the exam. You can also call Child Life at 682-885-2677.

Special instructions

1. Please report to Patient Registration at your child's scheduled **arrival** time.
2. Remove jewelry from the part we scan.
3. A parent/guardian may stay in the room during the procedure unless we use sedation.
4. Expectant mothers may not be in the scan room during the procedure.
5. Please do not bring other children. Your child will need all of your attention.
6. Your child may bring a favorite toy or blanket to snuggle with during the scan.
7. We will ask about your child's medicines and allergies.
8. If your daughter is 10 years or older, we will need to complete a pregnancy screening and possibly do a pregnancy test.

If you are unable to keep your child's appointment please call us as soon as possible.

After the CT scan

After the exam is over, your child:

- May eat and drink as usual.
- May return to normal activities.

A Radiologist will read the exam and send the results to your child's doctor. Your child's doctor will review the result. Their office will share the results with you.