



## What is a CT?

A computerized tomography (CT) scan combines a series of X-ray images taken from different angles and uses computer processing to create internal cross-sectional images, or slices, of the bones, blood vessels and soft tissues. CT scan images provide more detailed information than plain X-rays.

You will lie comfortably while the exam is performed. For some exams, contrast is required to increase the visibility of blood vessels and other organs; the contrast is given to you either intravenously or orally.

## Exam questions?

We developed the guide below to help you determine what exam you'll need and the preparation that will be required. If you have further questions, contact our staff prior to your visit.

Simply call us to schedule your appointment and find a time that is most convenient for you. For some exams, there is no preparation required, so we can even offer you same-day appointments.

## OakLeaf Clinics CT Exams

*This list does not represent all of our CT services.*

Scan	Goal	Preparation
Sinus	To diagnose chronic or recurrent acute sinusitis, visualize abnormalities and detect cause of infection.	No preparation necessary
Orthopedics	To detect several conditions including injuries, fractures to wrists, hands, feet and hips.	
Spine/Vertebrae	To detect tumors, injuries, deformities, narrowing of the spinal canal (spinal stenosis) and other problems of the spine.	
Abdomen/Pelvis for Renal Stone	To detect kidney stones and evaluate the kidneys, ureter and bladder.	We offer same-day appointments.
Bone Density	To measure bone mass and monitor for signs of osteoporosis.	
Cardiac Calcium Score	To detect coronary artery disease. (No caffeine/smoking 4 hours prior to scan.)	
Chest*	To detect infection, lung cancer, pulmonary embolism, aneurysms and diffuse lung disease.	No food or drink 4 hours prior to exam
Urinary tract	To detect blockage, abnormal growths, infection, structural problems and diseases of the urinary tract.	
Liver	To detect liver tumors, gallbladder and bile disease, diffuse liver disease and renal-portal disease.	
Abdomen/Pelvis*	To detect several conditions, including cysts, abscesses, infection, tumors, aneurysms, enlarged lymph nodes, foreign objects, bleeding into the abdominal cavity, diverticulitis, inflammatory bowel disease, pancreatitis and appendicitis.	No food or drink 4 hours prior to exam; must drink contrast 1 hour prior to exam
Head/Neck*	To evaluate lymph nodes and glands of neck, detect bleeding, clots, aneurysms, skull fractures, diseases of the temporal bone and causes of inflammation.	
CT Angiography	To visualize blood flow in the veins and arteries, aortic dissection, clots and aneurysms, as well as to detect narrowing or obstruction specifically in the carotid and renal arteries.	

*\*Note: A blood test is needed prior to exam for chest, abdomen, pelvis and neck with contrast.*

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