For enquiries and appointments,
please contact us

Department of Diagnostic & Interventional Radiology

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Service Hours
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Saturday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays

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Service Hours
Monday to Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays

Consultation by Appointment

Patient feedback is incorporated

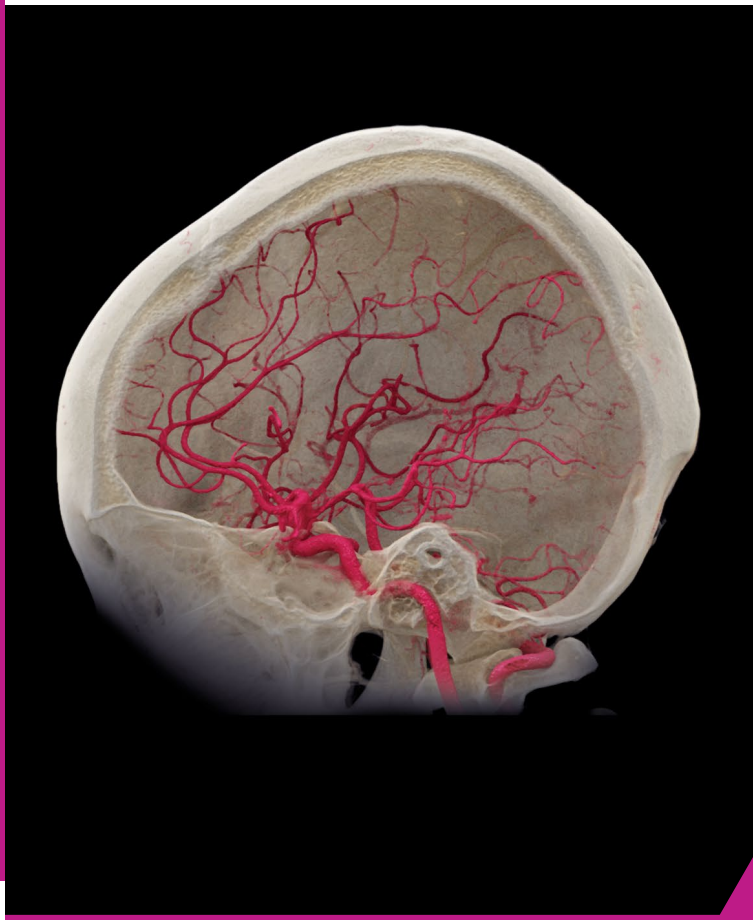
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李樹芬醫學基金會
LI SHU FAN MEDICAL FOUNDATION

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Computed Tomography



Department of Diagnostic & Interventional Radiology

What is Computed Tomography

Computed Tomography (CT) is an advanced and unique imaging method of the entire body using X-ray and special computers. It takes cross-sectional images of the body with X-ray and reconstructs the information obtained from scanning with special computers to show the part of the body being studied in remarkable detail. Over a hundred different soft tissue densities can be seen.

Who Needs a CT Scan?

Your doctor generally decides whether a CT scan is the best investigation for your condition. Common indications include patients with cancer, infection or inflammation; patients who have suffered a stroke or sustained trauma; patients with severe abdominal pain; patients with persistent fever; patients who wish to take a health check (e.g. heavy smokers). These are just a few examples of the versatilities of CT applications.

Preparations

What should I do prior to the examination?

- Some examinations require fasting or taking oral contrast/drinking water, while others need no special preparation. Follow the instructions provided upon booking.
- If iodinated IV contrast is planned, please inform our staff about any previous contrast reaction, asthma or severe allergy, kidney disease, diabetes and medicines, thyroid disease, or possible pregnancy. Renal function information or other preparation may be required according to the examination and related risks.

Radiation Safety

CT uses ionising radiation. The protocol is tailored to the clinical question and body size to obtain diagnostic images while keeping dose as low as reasonably achievable.

Precautions

Please inform your doctor of any history of known drug allergy (especially contrast medium), food allergy, history of asthma, urticaria, eczema or allergic rhinitis.

Procedures

How long will it take?

The examination only takes 10 to 15 minutes. You will lie on the scanner table and may be asked to hold your breath. In certain examinations, you may need to drink oral contrast 1 to 2 hours beforehand. Please allow sufficient time for this in these circumstances.

What should I do during the examination?

To ensure that the structures being studied can be clearly shown, it is very important that you lie still and hold your breath as instructed during the examination.

What happens during the examination?

- The CT scanner consists of a table, a very sophisticated X-ray tube and a special array of detectors. During examination, you will lie on the CT table, which will carry you slowly through the gantry of the scanner
- A collimated X-ray beam will pass through your body to take a number of cross-sectional images of the body
- Intravenous or oral contrasts are usually given prior to the examination to enable the Radiologist to better see the structures being studied and better diagnose your condition
- During contrast injection, you may briefly feel warm, notice a metallic taste or feel as though you are passing urine.

What should I do after the examination?

You can usually resume normal diet and activities. After IV contrast, drink additional fluid unless medically restricted. Seek urgent medical care for breathing difficulty, swelling of the face or throat, severe widespread hives, fainting, or persistent severe pain or marked swelling at the injection site.