

Time for pictures!

You're going to get a CT scan with anesthesia. Here's what that's all about.



What is a CT scan?

A CT scan is a camera that looks like a big circle that takes pictures of the inside of your body. A CT technologist (or tech for short) will be helping to take the pictures.



Arriving at the hospital

You'll first check in at the registration desk in the hospital's main lobby. You and your caregiver will get a bracelet to wear that has your name and birthday on it.



Where you'll wait

After registration, you and your caregiver will go to the radiology waiting room and check in with a receptionist at the front desk. When it's time for your pictures, a CT tech will come to the waiting room and call your name. The tech will bring you to the nurse's holding area.



Let's check out the nurse's holding area

There's a bed for you to sit or lie on, chairs for your caregivers and a TV!



What happens in the nurse's holding area?

You will:

- Stand on a scale to see how much you weigh.
- Change into hospital PJs.
- Check your temperature. The thermometer slides across your forehead and behind your ear.
- Take your blood pressure. Do you want to use your right arm or your left arm?
- Put a red light on your finger to see how well you are breathing.



Anesthesia

Your job is to hold very still for the CT scan so the pictures don't come out blurry. When it's hard to hold your body and head still for that long, the doctors will give you something called anesthesia. It is a sleep medicine that you breathe through a mask. The mask does not hurt. You can pick out a fun smell for your mask like watermelon, cotton candy or root beer. You can also decorate your mask with stickers.



Oral medication

If you are feeling nervous about the CT pictures or getting the sleep medicine, that is normal. The doctor can give you a medicine to drink that will help you feel a little less nervous and more relaxed. Do you want to drink your medicine from a cup or syringe?



The CT scan room

This is a picture of one of the monitors in the room. Monitors help the doctors know how your body is working. For example, it tells them how you're breathing and how fast your heart is beating.



Recovery room

After your CT pictures, you will go to the recovery room. This is the room where you will wake up if you get sleep medicine. Your caregiver and a nurse will be in the room with you.



Our child life specialists are here to help

Child life specialists can help reduce a child's fear associated with the hospital environment. They do this through therapeutic play, developmentally appropriate medical preparation and coping support. They can help you and your family understand what to expect during a CT scan with anesthesia.



Questions?

After reading this, you might have questions. Feel free to write them down (by yourself or with the help of your caregiver) and bring them with you to the hospital. We will make sure all your questions are answered before we start!



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GREAT JOB!

**That's the end of your
CT scan with anesthesia!
You're all done.**

