



# **Why have I been asked to come for a CT scan information letter**

## **Why do I need a CT scan?**

You have been asked to come for this scan because the chest X-ray you had recently identified a possible abnormality. A CT scan uses X-rays and a computer to create detailed images of the inside of the body and will give us more information.

## **What happens on the day of the CT scan?**

Please follow the instructions given in your appointment letter/from the hospital Imaging department about attending your CT scan appointment.

You may be asked to change into a hospital gown prior to your scan. The CT scan involves lying flat on the scanner table, which then slides through the CT machine. The scan itself is very quick. The CT scan may involve an injection of dye (also known as contrast) into a vein. To inject the dye we need to know how good your kidney function is, so we might need to do a blood test if there are no recent results available.

## **What happens next?**

The CT scan will be reported by a doctor (Consultant Radiologist). The findings will then be discussed by specialist respiratory (lung) doctors in a meeting.

If the CT scan is reassuring, a letter will be sent to you and your GP explaining this and you may not need to see a hospital specialist. Your scan may still demonstrate some findings that require further tests, or your GP may still feel you would benefit from a specialist referral. Therefore, it is important that you make an appointment with your GP to discuss the scan results in more detail.

Alternatively, your scan may demonstrate something that needs more urgent investigation. In this case, the hospital will contact you by text message, phone and/or letter to arrange an appointment with a lung specialist in a clinic. Your GP will also receive the result of your scan and may be able to discuss it with you. However, as it is a specialist scan, your GP will need a full management plan from the specialist lung team before they can discuss it fully.

If you have not heard back from your GP or the hospital within 2 weeks of your scan, please contact one of the following:

- Your GP surgery
- Lung nurse specialists at Queen Elizabeth Hospital: 0121 371 6560 or 0121 371 4238
- Lung nurse specialists at Heartlands and Solihull Hospitals: 0121 424 1433
- Lung nurse specialists at Good Hope Hospital: 0121 424 9494

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## Accessibility

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