

## CAT SCAN (CT SCAN)

### **PURPOSE:**

A computed tomography (**CT**), also known as Computed Axial Tomography (**CAT**) scan, obtains images of the body that are overlooked by a standard x-ray exam. The captured images are then sent to a computer system, which compiles the body's pictures into slices, allowing doctors to examine blood vessels, bone and soft tissue.

**LENGTH:** 15-30 minutes

### **PREP:**

- Do not eat or drink for 4 hours before your test. You may, however, take your medicines with water.
- If you have an iodine allergy (IVP, Angiogram, CAT scan dye), let your doctor know. You will need to be pre-medicated if your test requires you to do so
- Wear loose, comfortable clothing for the exam. Please remove any metallic objects that are in the area of your exam ahead of time.

### **SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- During some CT scans, a contrast medium is used to outline blood vessels or highlight organs in the body, for example, you may be required to consume a barium drink before the exam. For some abdominal imaging you may be required to arrive 1 hour before the test to drink the oral contrast agent. You may also pick up the drink ahead of time and drink it 1 hour before your test and arrive at your appointment time. Please allow extra time in your schedule in case of delays or the need to repeat some scans.
- **If you received IV dye during your scan and are taking Glucophage, please do not take medicine for 48 hours after the exam. You may resume your normal schedule after 48 hours.**

### **Equipment:**

**Sheffield Center** - Siemens Somatom Emotion 16

**Lorain Center** - Siemens Somatom Sensation 64