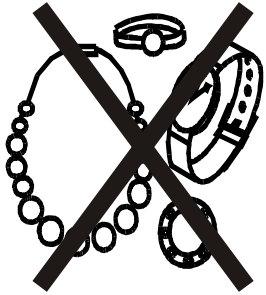
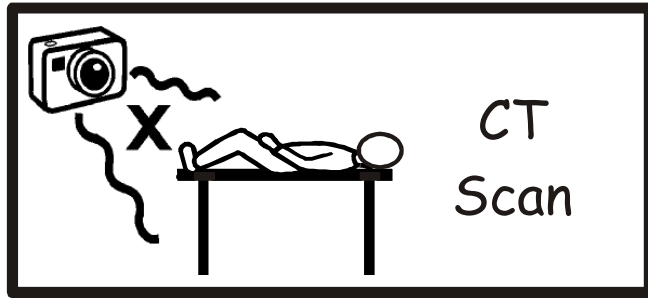


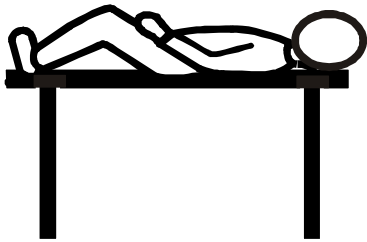
CT Scan



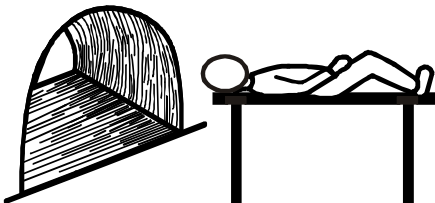
You must take off anything that is metal.



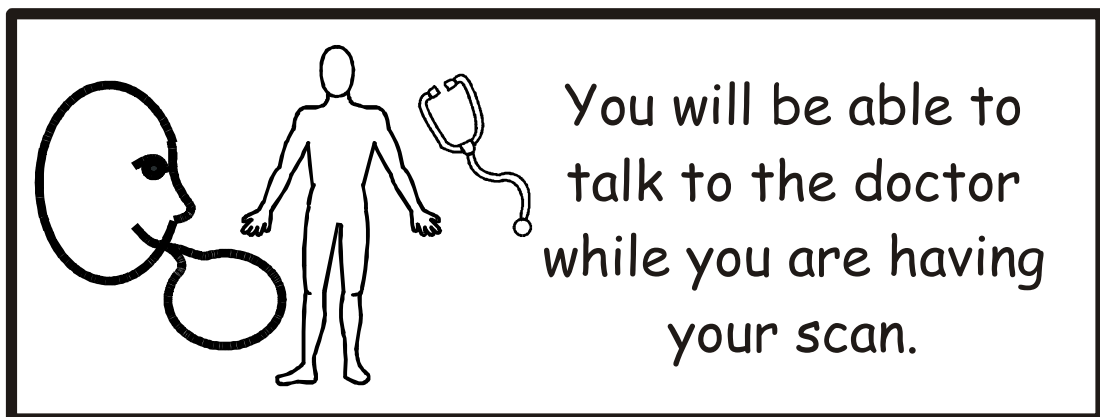
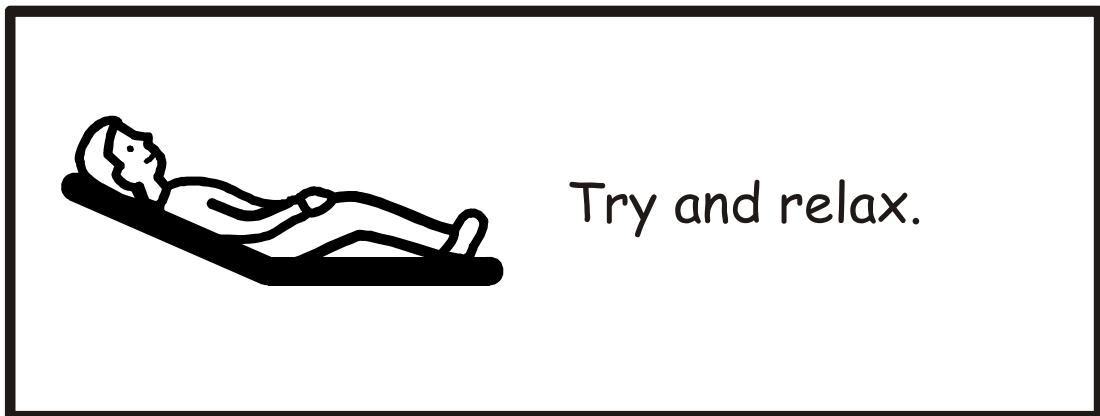
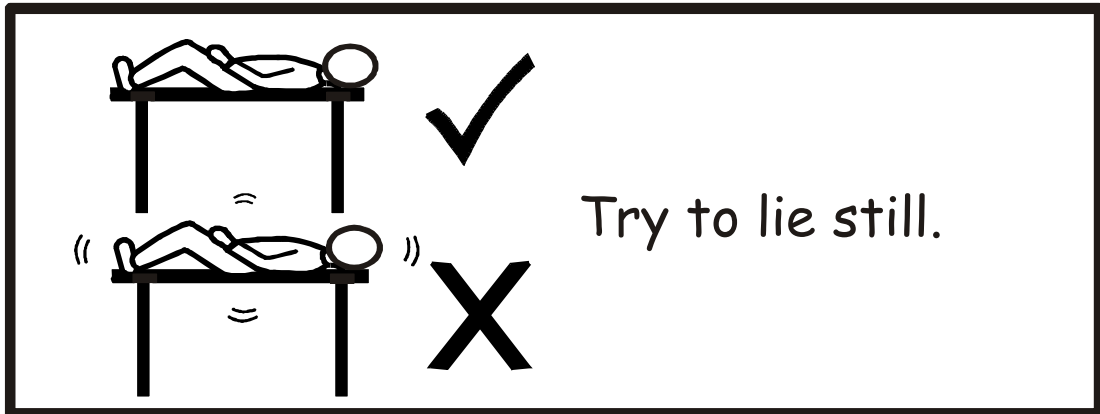
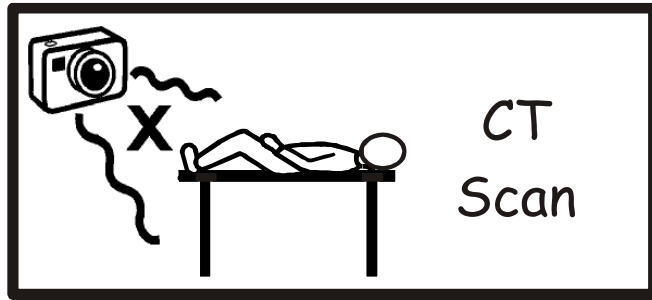
You may have to put on a hospital gown.



You will have to lie on a bed.



The bed will move.



# **CT Scan Guidance Notes for Healthcare Professionals**

## **What is a C.T. scan?**

A CT scan (Computerised Tomography) takes pictures from all around the body and uses a computer to put the pictures together. The machine is shaped like a doughnut.

## **How does it work?**

A CT scan uses X-rays to take lots of pictures of the body from different angles. The computer puts them together to give a series of cross sections through the part of the body being scanned.

## **What will happen?**

- The patient may have to put on a hospital gown.
- They must remove all jewellery and anything that is metal.
- The patient may be asked to lie on their front, side or back.
- The radiographer will be able to talk to the patient through an intercom.
- The bed will move backwards and forwards through the machine.
- The patient can ask for the scan to be stopped at any time.
- Most scans last for about 30 minutes.

If the patient is very anxious about having the scan ring the department at least a week before the appointment and tell the radiographer. They may be able to give the patient a tablet or injection before the scan to make them feel more relaxed.

The patient may be given an injection of dye if they are having a scan of the head or chest area. This will make the scan clearer.

## **Can a CT scan be dangerous?**

No, although you should not have a scan if you think you may be pregnant as it can be harmful to the baby.

## **The results**

It can take time for the results of the scan to come through. If the patient has not heard within a couple of weeks ring the GP to see what is happening.