

## Patient information factsheet

# Radiotherapy CT scan (IV contrast)

**An appointment has been made for you to have a CT scan.**

CT stands for computerised tomography and uses x-rays and a computer to create detailed images of the inside of the body. The scan will be used to plan your radiotherapy treatment, which means working out how much radiation you need to treat the cancer and exactly where you need it.

### On the day of your CT scan

- You must not eat for two hours before your appointment, but please do drink water.
- Please continue to take any medication as normal. However, if you are diabetic and are taking Metformin please call **023 8077 7222**, ext. **8897** as soon as possible, as we will need to discuss this with you.

### When you arrive please report to:

Radiotherapy reception  
Level A  
Southampton Oncology Centre  
Southampton General Hospital  
Tremona Road  
Southampton  
SO16 6YD

When you arrive in the radiotherapy department you may be given a flavoured liquid to drink. This contains a harmless dye that helps your bladder show up clearly on the scan. Your scan will then take place approximately 30 minutes later.

### Contact us

If you have any queries, please telephone radiotherapy reception on **023 8120 8568**.

### Useful links

NHS Choices - Radiotherapy, How it is performed:

[www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Radiotherapy/Pages/How-it-is-performed.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Radiotherapy/Pages/How-it-is-performed.aspx)

Cancer Research UK – Planning your external radiotherapy:

[www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/cancers-in-general/treatment/radiotherapy/external/plan/preparing-your-radiotherapy-plan](http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/cancers-in-general/treatment/radiotherapy/external/plan/preparing-your-radiotherapy-plan)

**If you need a translation of this document, an interpreter or a version in large print, Braille or on audiotape, please telephone **023 8120 4688** for help.**