

## Patient information factsheet

# Radiotherapy CT scan (oral contrast)

We have given you this factsheet because you have an appointment for a CT scan.

### What is 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 drink water.

Please continue to take your medication as normal.

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 we may give you 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 the radiotherapy reception.

### Radiotherapy reception

Telephone: **023 8120 8568** (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm)

### 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)

For a translation of this document, or a version in another format such as easy read, large print, Braille or audio, please telephone **0800 484 0135** or email **patientsupporthub@uhs.nhs.uk**

For help preparing for your visit, arranging an interpreter or accessing the hospital, please visit **[www.uhs.nhs.uk/additionalsupport](http://www.uhs.nhs.uk/additionalsupport)**