

Patient information factsheet

Intravenous dynamic computed tomography (IV Dyna CT)

Your doctor has referred you for an intravenous dynamic computed tomography (known as an IV Dyna CT) to check the stent or metal coils in the blood vessels in your brain.

This factsheet explains what an IV Dyna CT is, what the procedure involves and how you prepare for it. We hope it will help to answer some of the questions you may have. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact us using the details at the end bottom of the factsheet.

What is an IV Dyna CT?

An IV Dyna CT is a procedure to take pictures of the major blood vessels in the brain. We use it to check your stent or metal coils. This can help us to make a diagnosis, plan your next treatment or follow up on your previous treatment.

An IV Dyna CT is a painless procedure. We can sometimes use an IV Dyna CT instead of a diagnostic angiogram. A diagnostic angiogram is a more invasive procedure and people will usually need to stay in hospital to recover.

Before your IV Dyna CT

Before the day of your IV Dyna CT, please make sure that you:

- tell us if there is any possibility that you may be pregnant, as we may not be able to perform the procedure.
- tell us if you take a medication called metformin.
- tell us if you need an interpreter.
- contact your GP if you need help with transport to the hospital for your IV Dyna CT appointment.
- arrange for any children coming to the appointment to be supervised by a responsible adult (members of staff are unable to look after children for you)

On the day of your IV Dyna CT

On the day of your IV Dyna CT, you should:

- eat and drink as normal.
- take other medications as normal, before and after the appointment, unless we advise you otherwise.
- remove jewellery and leave any valuables at home. (University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage to personal property.)

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Getting ready for the IV Dyna CT

To get ready for your IV Dyna CT, we will put a cannula (a small plastic tube) in the vein in your hand or arm.

We will also ask you some questions to make sure it is safe to use contrast liquid in the IV Dyna CT. Contrast liquid improves the quality of the images we take and helps with your diagnosis.

During the IV Dyna CT

During your IV Dyna CT we will ask you to lie on the examination table on your back. To get the best images, we will ask you to lie still.

We will use an injection pump to inject the contrast liquid. We will do this at the same time as the scan, so it is important to remain very still.

You will have a radiographer (a specialist scan operator) with you in the room for the whole procedure. They can explain what is happening and reassure you if you are feeling anxious.

After the IV Dyna CT

After the procedure we may ask you to wait in the department for up to 10 minutes. This is to make sure you have no reaction to the contrast liquid and are feeling well. After this, we will remove the cannula and you will be able to go home.

You can carry on with normal day to-day activities after the procedure.

A neuroradiologist (a doctor who specialises in brain scans) will review your scan and send a report to the doctor who referred you. Your doctor will discuss the test results with you at your next consultation.

Risks and side effects

Radiation

In the IV Dyna CT, you will experience some exposure to radiation. The amount of radiation you will receive is always kept to the minimum amount needed and the radiation risk is low.

Contrast liquid

Common side effects of the contrast liquid include a hot flush, the feeling of passing urine and a metallic taste.

Some people may have a rare allergic reaction to the contrast liquid. We will go through a safety checklist before starting the procedure to check whether you are at increased risk.

Useful links

The Brain & Spine Foundation UK: www.brainandspine.org.uk

Telephone: **0808 808 1000**

Contact us

Telephone: **023 8120 8400** (8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday)

Switchboard: **023 8077 7222** (Extension: **8400 / 6881**)

Email: neuroangio@uhs.nhs.uk

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