

Proton beam therapy unit After your CT contrast/dye injection

After your CT contrast/dye injection we will ask you to wait in the department with the cannula in your arm for a minimum of 15 minutes. We keep the cannula in place in case we need to give you some medication if you have a reaction. Although a reaction to the contrast/dye injection is extremely rare, there are certain factors that can increase the waiting time with the cannula in your arm to 30 minutes e.g. pre-existing conditions, certain medications etc.

It is important to stay well hydrated following the contrast injection to help flush the contrast/dye out of your system fully. We advise drinking between 2-3 litres of water over the next 24 hours.

A reaction may show itself as one of the following:

- skin rash, lumps, itchy spots or other allergic symptoms
- stinging pain at or near the injection site
- wheeziness, difficulty in breathing or tightness or pain in the chest
- dizziness or feeling faint
- swelling of your face
- a fever or high temperature
- an unexpected change in the amount of urine produced and/or its appearance.

Other effects may occur such as:

- abdominal discomfort
- nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhoea

Continued...



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- swelling or tenderness of your salivary glands on your throat
- coughing.

If you are diabetic and have been told to stop taking Metformin after your scan, please arrange a blood test with your GP to check your eGFR in 2-4 days time.

Contacts:

If you experience any of the symptoms listed above within 24 hours of the CT contrast injection, please contact the proton beam therapy unit on **0161 918 2300** between the hours of 8:00am - 6:00pm, Monday to Friday.

Outside these hours:

Contact your GP or the **NHS 111** service. If symptoms become severe, or last for more than a few days, contact your GP or nearest Accident and Emergency department, as sometimes medical treatment is necessary.

If you need information in a different format, such as easy read, large print, BSL, braille, email, SMS text or other communication support, please tell your ward or clinic nurse.

We try to ensure that all our information given to patients is accurate, balanced and based on the most up-to-date scientific evidence. If you would like to have details about the sources used please contact **patient.information@christie.nhs.uk**

For information and advice visit the cancer information centres at Withington, Oldham or Salford. Opening times can vary, please check before making a special journey.



Contact The Christie Hotline for
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Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

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