Radiology department

Information about your MRI contrast/dye

You have been given an injection of MRI contrast/dye to help highlight the area of interest on your magnetic resonance scan.

A reaction to the contrast/dye is extremely rare. However, if a reaction does occur, this usually happens shortly after the injection. These effects are usually very mild and do not last long.

A reaction may show itself as one of the following:
• nausea, vomiting
• headache
• dizziness
• pain, coldness or warmth around the injection site

Other effects may occur such as:
• skin rash, lumps, itchy spots or other allergic symptoms
• abdominal discomfort
• swelling or tenderness of your salivary glands on your throat
• shortness of breath
• wheeziness, difficulty in breathing or tightness or pain in the chest
• coughing, sneezing

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Contacts
If you experience any of the above symptoms, within 24 hours of the MRI contrast injection contact the cross-sectional radiographer:

Monday to Friday, 8:45am - 5:00pm on 0161 918 2525.

Outside these hours: Contact your GP or the nearest Accident and Emergency department.

If, after 24 hours, the symptoms above become severe or last for more than a few days, please contact your GP or nearest Accident and Emergency Department.

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.

The Christie is committed to producing high quality, evidence based information for patients. Our patient information adheres to the principles and quality statements of the Information Standard. 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 urgent support and specialist advice
The Christie Hotline: 0161 446 3658
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week