

Proton beam therapy unit

After your contrast/dye injections

You have been given a 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.

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:

- 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
- 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.

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 and/or vomiting
- headache
- dizziness
- pain, coldness or warmth around the injection site.

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- skin rash, lumps, itchy spots or other allergic symptoms
- abdominal discomfort
- swelling or tenderness of your salivary glands on your throat
- shortness of breath
- stinging pain at or near the injection site
- wheeziness, difficulty in breathing or tightness or pain in the chest
- coughing or sneezing.

It is important to remain 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.

Contacts:

If you experience any of the symptoms listed on the previous page within 24 hours of the CT and MR contrast injections, please contact the proton beam therapy unit on **0161 918 2300** between 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
urgent support and specialist advice
The Christie Hotline: 0161 446 3658
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

