

**CT:**

## **Pratt Regional Medical Center**

### **What you can expect:**

CT scans are painless and with the newer machines, take only a few minutes.

The whole procedure typically takes about 30 minutes.

#### **During the CT Scan**

CT scanners are shaped like a large doughnut standing on its side. You lie on a motorized table that slides through the opening. Straps and pillows may be used to help you stay in position. During a head scan, the table may be fitted with a special cradle that holds your head still.

While the table moves you into the scanner, detectors and the x-ray tube rotate around you. Each rotation yields several images of thin slices of your body. You may hear bussing, clicking and whirring noises.

A technologist in a separate room can see and hear you. You will be able to communicate with the technologist via intercom. The technologist may ask you to hold your breath at certain points to avoid blurring the images.

#### **After the CT Scan**

After the exam you can return to your normal routine. If you were given contrast material, you may receive special instructions. After the scan, you'll likely be told to drink lots of fluids to help your kidneys remove the contrast material from your body.

