



## CT – SI Joint Injection

To schedule: (319) 861-7778

Questions about your procedure: (319) 398-6050

### What is a CT Scan?

A Computed Tomography (CT) scan – sometimes called CAT scan – is a non-invasive, painless medical test that helps providers diagnose and treat medical conditions.

CT imaging uses special X-ray equipment to produce multiple images or pictures of the inside of the body. A computer joins them together in cross-sectional views of the area being studied. The images can then be examined and interpreted from the computer.

CT scans of internal organs, bone, soft tissues and blood vessels provide greater clarity than conventional X-ray exams.

The procedure will take approximately 30 – 45 minutes.

### Preparation:

No preparation is necessary. Please inform your doctor or the Radiology staff if you are on blood thinners or are allergic to x-ray “dye” (contrast media). Any recent x-ray images taken elsewhere of the joint to be examined should be sent to the Mercy Radiology Department before your scheduled exam. You may eat and drink before the exam and take your daily medications.

You may continue taking all blood thinners. Warfarin (Coumadin) will require an INR result of less than 3.0 within 3 days of your procedure.

Because your procedure will require signing a consent to complete the exam, Mercy requests you do not take any narcotics, sedatives or antianxiety medications the day of your scheduled exam.

### Procedure:

The Radiologist or Radiologist Assistant will clean the affected skin located at the joint with an antiseptic solution. A local anesthetic (pain-relieving medication) will be injected into your joint. After the area becomes numb, a hollow needle will be placed into the joint. Images will be taken to verify the needle placement and inject an anesthetic/steroid drug mixture to help with your pain. Images will be taken to document the needle placement. The Radiology staff will go over post-procedure instructions with you following the exam.

### PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:

**A PHOTO ID TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY**

**A LIST OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS YOU ARE TAKING**

### Mercy Hospital Parking:

Park in the Mercy Medical Center 10<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. Proceed to **Ground (G)** level and follow the signs to “Radiology (X-Ray),” also located on **Ground (G)** level.

**Procedure Results:**

A radiologist will review the images shortly after the exam is completed. A written report will be sent to the provider who ordered your exam. Your provider will discuss the results with you. Please allow your provider time to review these results, usually 2 business days after the exam. Results will also be sent to your MyChart page.