

A CT scan — also called CT or computerized tomography — is an X-ray technique that produces images of your body that visualize internal structures in cross section rather than the overlapping images typically produced by conventional X-ray exams.

A conventional X-ray of your mouth limits your dentist to a 2-D visualization. Diagnosis and treatment planning can require a more complete understanding of a complex 3-D anatomy. CT examinations provide a wealth of 3-D information that can be used when planning for dental implants, surgical extractions, maxillofacial surgery and advanced dental restorative procedures. One benefit of CT scans is the greater chance for diagnosing conditions such as vertical root fractures, which can be missed a significant percentage of the time on conventional films, ultimately helping patients avoid unnecessary additional treatment. In a nutshell, the CT scan enhances your dentist's ability to see what he/she needs to see before treatment is started.

CT scans are NOT recommended for pregnant women because of danger to the fetus.

Initial below as appropriate:

I am pregnant I am not pregnant

I am unsure whether I am pregnant

RISKS:

CT scans, like conventional X-rays, expose you to radiation. The amount of radiation you will be exposed to by the CT scan used by this office is approximately the equivalent to the exposure you would get from ___ days in the sun. An alternative to CT scans is conventional X-rays. While parts of your anatomy beyond your mouth and jaw may be evident from the scan, your dentist is not qualified to diagnose conditions that are present in those areas nor will your dentist be looking for any abnormal conditions other than those normally diagnosed by a dentist involving the area of the mouth and jaw. Therefore, the mere fact that other structures are evident on the scan does not mean that they are being examined by a professional to determine whether they are normal. Your dentist is not a physician or a specialist qualified to make those determinations. Our office can e-mail our scan to your physician for a small administrative fee, if you ask us to do so.

DO NOT SIGN THIS FORM UNLESS YOU HAVE READ IT, UNDERSTAND IT AND AGREE WITH WHAT IT SAYS.

I, _____, being 18 years or older, certify that I have read the above in the presence of _____ and that I understand the procedure to be used and its benefits, risks and alternatives. I acknowledge that I have had a full opportunity to discuss this matter with Dr. _____ and have my questions answered. I give my consent to have Dr. _____ and his/her staff as he/she may designate perform a CT scan.

Signature of patient or legal guardian

Date