

# Welcome

Our patients are the focus of all we do at Florida Orthopaedic Institute and our goal is to keep you active. We achieve this by providing you with the best orthopedic solutions for virtually every bone, joint, ligament and muscle in the body.

We are different from other orthopedic groups because our team of highly skilled, board certified physicians and surgeons has advanced training, which allows the highest standard of care. Our surgeons are also fellowship trained, which requires an additional year of study in the orthopedic subspecialties of hand, spine, joint replacement, shoulder and elbow, sports medicine, foot and ankle, and trauma. This expertise is invaluable for proper diagnosis and treatment, providing a level of care unattainable elsewhere in the Tampa Bay Area.

Our philosophy is to first try all appropriate nonsurgical methods to increase mobility and function. This may include medication, bracing, injections, physical and/or occupational therapy, or chiropractic services, all of which we provide. Then, and only then, do we suggest surgery.

We are also proud of our strong partnership with USF Health Morsani College of Medicine. In addition to my role as president and chief medical officer of Florida Orthopaedic Institute, I also chair USF's Department of Orthopedic Surgery. Together, we can capitalize on our combined strengths and advance academic orthopedics. This combination assures our patients the finest orthopedic treatment and brings a substantial benefit to our community, patients, residents, students and faculty.

As one of Florida's largest orthopedic groups, our mission is simple: to provide excellence in clinical outcomes and an exceptional patient experience, while in an environment that fosters growth through teaching, education and research in all aspects of musculoskeletal medicine.

Please let us know if there is anything we can do to further improve your experience. We look forward to serving you!

Sincerely,  
Roy Sanders, M.D.  
President and Chief Medical Officer



**FloridaOrtho.com (800) FL-ORTHO**

## Computerized Tomography



**FLORIDA  
ORTHOPAEDIC  
INSTITUTE®**



# Computerized Tomography (CT) Scanning

## What is Computerized Tomography (CT) Scanning?

Computerized tomography (CT) scanning is a noninvasive medical test that helps physicians diagnose and treat medical conditions by combining special x-ray equipment with sophisticated computers to produce multiple images or pictures of the inside of the body. Internal organs, bones, soft tissue and blood vessels have greater clarity and reveal more details with a CT scan than with a regular x-ray exam. They are also called CAT scans (computerized axial tomography)



## What are CT scans used for?

Through the use of CT scans, radiologists can diagnose problems such as cancers, cardiovascular disease, infectious disease, appendicitis, trauma and musculoskeletal disorders.

## How does the procedure work?

In many ways, CT scanning works very much like other x-ray examinations. X-rays are a form of radiation—like light or radio waves—that can be directed at the body. Different body parts absorb the x-rays in varying degrees.

With CT scanning, numerous x-ray beams and a set of electronic x-ray detectors rotate around you, measuring the amount of radiation being absorbed throughout your body. At the same time, the examination table is moving through

the scanner, so that the x-ray beam follows a spiral path. A special computer program processes this large volume of data to create two-dimensional cross-sectional images of your body, which are then displayed on a monitor.

## What does the equipment look like?

The CT scanner is typically a large, box-like machine with a hole, or short tunnel, in the center. You will lie on a narrow examination table that slides into and out of this tunnel. Rotating around you, the x-ray tube and electronic x-ray detectors are located opposite each other in a ring, called a gantry. The computer workstation that processes the imaging information is located in a separate control room, where the technologist operates the scanner and monitors your examination.



## What will I experience during the procedure?

CT exams are generally painless, fast and easy.

## Who interprets the results and how do I get them?

A radiologist (specialized physician) interprets the images and sends a report for your physician.

## How is the CT scan performed?

The technologist begins by positioning you on the CT examination table, usually lying flat on your back or less commonly, on your side or your stomach. Straps and pillows may be used to help you maintain the correct position and to hold still during the exam. Depending on the part of the body being scanned, you may be asked to keep your hands over your head.

Next, the table moves quickly through the scanner to determine the correct starting position for the scans. Then, the table moves slowly through the machine as the actual CT scanning is performed. Depending on the type of CT scan, the machine may make several passes.

CT examinations are typically completed within 20 minutes. Once the CT examination is complete, a board certified musculoskeletal radiologist interprets the images and generates a report for your physician to review and help determine treatment options.

## Our Diagnostic Imaging Program

Florida Orthopaedic Institute highly skilled healthcare professionals use state-of-the-art technology to meet your medical needs. We're your one stop for all musculoskeletal diagnostic imaging as we have a full range of specialized services that include:

- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Computerized Tomography (CT scan)
- Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Imaging
- Electromyography (EMG)
- Nerve Conduction Velocity (NCV)
- Digital X-Rays
- Fluoroscopy