

CT Virtual Colonoscopy

Colorectal Cancer is the third most common cancer in men and women and the third leading cause of death, even though it has a high cure rate when detected early.

CT Virtual Colonography (CTVC) offers similar accuracy and is a safe alternative to Optical Colonoscopy. CT Virtual Colonography has been in use now for several years and has largely replaced the Barium Enema examination.

CTVC is considered more accurate, more acceptable to patients, safer and quicker than BE¹. CTVC is not specific to the colon, allowing visualization of other abdominal organs. CTVC does not require sedation and is a very safe alternative for patients who are not suitable for Optical Colonoscopy and General Anaesthesia.

In addition, CTVC has been shown to be extremely accurate (96%) in the diagnosis of colorectal cancer² and advanced polyps. Indeed, CTVC compares very well against Optical Colonoscopy (OC) with regard to accuracy^{3,4}.

Who is it for?

- Screening for bowel cancer in people who are considered to have no increased risk of developing bowel cancer.
- Failed or incomplete conventional colonoscopy.
- When colonoscopy is relatively contraindicated because of significant medical conditions.

Who is it not for?

- Screening for bowel cancer in people who are considered to have an increased risk of bowel cancer
- It is not a preferred test in younger people, particularly less than 40 years of age, because of the radiation used in the procedure.
- Patients with acute abdominal symptoms

What does the procedure involve?

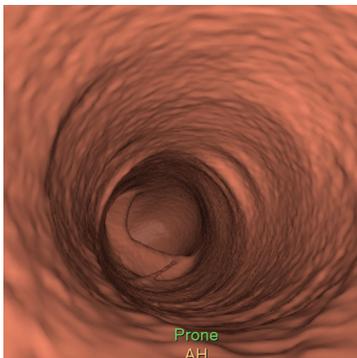
- Bowel preparation is required for 2 days before the test, this involves taking a laxative and fasting for 8 hours before the procedure
- A small tube is inserted into the rectum and air is passed into the large bowel
- Two short scans are then performed

How much does it cost?

- If referred by a Specialist, and the indication meets Medicare requirements, the examination can be bulk billed for pensioners and healthcare card holders. Private patients will incur an out-of-pocket cost of \$150
- If referred by a General Practitioner the examination has an out-of-pocket cost of \$350



**Virtual external
of the Colon**



**Virtual endoscopic
view inside the colon**

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