Patient’s consent for computerised tomography investigation

Dear patient,

We request your consent for performing a computerised tomography (CT in further text) investigation for more precise evaluation of your health status.

The investigation will take place in Tallinn, at Punane Street 61, room 127/128 ...........................................

(Date)

General information
A computerised tomography (CT) device is an X-ray apparatus connected with a computer that provides stratified (in layers) and three-dimensional images of the human body. During CT investigation X-rays pass through the tissues in multiple directions and its absorption is measured with special detectors in several positions. The obtained information is then processed with a computer. The amount of radiation used during CT investigation exceeds the amount used for conventional X-ray investigation, therefore this investigation is performed only in case of specific medical indications and when prescribed by your treating doctor.

Preparation for the investigation
At CT investigation metal objects create shades on obtained images; therefore there should be no such objects in the investigated area. Please keep in mind the following when coming to the investigation:

- Please wear light and comfortable clothes that could be easily taken off when necessary. Avoid clothes with metal buttons, zipper, fasteners or similar. It is also advisable not to wear jewellery or trimmings on the clothes.
- You will have to remove all metal jewellery and your watch, as well as your belt, hairclips, eyeglasses and/or hearing apparatus (if applicable), and bra (women) before the CT investigation.

In the event that your treating doctor has prescribed CT investigation of the abdomen and small pelvis, you will have to make certain preparations for the investigation:

- You may not eat for 4 hours before the investigation.
- You will have to come to the CT investigation 15 minutes earlier.

Investigation procedure
If necessary, a venous cannula is inserted into the vein in your arm for administering iodine-containing contrasting agent in order to improve the visibility of the structure of your organs and possible pathological changes.

CT investigation lasts for 5-15 minutes depending upon the area investigated.

You will be asked to remove all metal objects before the investigation and lie on your back on the investigation table. It is important not to move during the investigation as it impairs the quality of the obtained images or results in the failure of the investigation. The investigation table moves back and forth during the investigation procedure.

Sometimes you may be asked to hold your breath for a couple of seconds during the investigation.

Throughout the CT investigation the personnel will monitor you via the window and you will have the possibility to communicate with the personnel conducting the investigation via the audio system.

You may experience a sensation of heat and metallic taste in the mouth during the injection of the contrasting agent that usually disappears after a few seconds.
After the investigation

- Drink plenty of fluids (it is recommended to drink about 1.5-2 litres or water) after an investigation involving a contrasting agent in order to speed up its elimination from the body.
- Nursing mothers should not breast-feed their child for 24 hours after the injection of the contrasting agent.
- The contrasting agent has no impact on reaction speed or attention ability.
- Delayed reactions to the contrasting agent (e.g. decrease of blood pressure, increased rate of heartbeat, breathing difficulties, agitation and confusion state, bluish discoloration of the lips) might occur in individual cases (<1:1000). In such an event please turn to the doctor immediately and inform him/her about the injected contrasting agent.
- Patients with diabetes should monitor themselves for the occurrence of possible renal failure. If you experience night-time muscle cramps, oedema of the legs, swelling around the eyes in the morning, frequent passing of urine (especially at night), tiredness, loss of appetite, sleeping problems, dryness and itching of the skin within a few days after an investigation with a contrasting agent, please contact your treating doctor immediately.

Results of the CT investigation
A radiologist will assess and describe the CT investigation results and send these to your treating doctor. You will be informed about the investigation results by your treating doctor.

Please contact your treating doctor for further information.

Contraindications for CT investigation
X-rays are dangerous for the developing body; therefore women must inform their referring doctor and personnel of the CT investigation office about their (possible) pregnancy. In pregnant women CT investigation is performed only in case of vital indications.

Contraindications for CT investigations with a contrasting agent are the following:

- Allergy to iodine – allergic reaction can occur after the injection of the contrasting agent into the vein: skin rash, itching, nausea, vomiting, increase in body temperature, oedema of the mucous membranes. Please inform the referring doctor and personnel of the CT investigation office if you have had reactions to contrasting agents before;
- Renal failure;
- Diabetes – you will receive special preparation and you will be monitored after the investigation, if necessary.

I hereby confirm that I have read and fully understood the contents of this document. I am aware of the essence and possible risks of the CT investigation. I agree with the administration of contrasting agents if it is deemed necessary for medical reasons.

My questions concerning the possible risks and complications of this procedure have been answered to my satisfaction before I have given my consent.

Please inform us at least 2 hours in advance at telephone 6050792 in the event that you will not be able to come to the investigation.

________________________  ______________________
(Patient’s or his/her representative’s name and signature)  (Date and time)