When I go for a **CT Scan of my head.**
With **I.V. Contrast.**
*(Computerized Tomography)*

St. Alexius Medical Center
I am going to St. Alexius Medical Center to have an exam called a CT scan. Sometimes it is called a CAT scan, but I know there will be no cats at my exam. This exam will take pictures of the inside of my body.
When I arrive at the hospital, I will go to the reception desk to check in. I will receive a bracelet with my name on it. This helps people know who I am.
I will wait in the waiting room until the exam room is ready for me.
The nurse will put a rubber band on my hand or arm. This helps the nurse find my veins. It will feel snug like a hug.
Next the nurse will clean my skin with soap. It will feel a little cold.
The nurse will use a very small needle to put the IV into my skin. The nurse will tell me before she does it. I can take some deep breaths, blow on a whistle, or count to help me relax. 1...2...3...
Next, the nurse will put clear tape over my skin to keep the IV in place.
After that, the nurse connects the tube that looks like a straw. This does not hurt. My IV start is almost done.
This is what my IV will look like. My IV start is all done.
In the exam room, there is a bed and the CT machine. The CT machine is a big camera that looks like a giant doughnut.
I will lay on the bed. It is my job to hold very still. My mom or dad or another support person might be there with me too. Sometimes a Child Life Specialist will bring toys or books for me to look at.
I can also look at the pictures on the wall. I continue to hold still.
The CT Technician will go into the control room to start the machine that takes my pictures.
Once all the pictures are taken, my CT scan is all done.
Some Friendly Faces I Might See...

Katie
Child Life Specialist

Letty
Child Life Specialist

Kerry
Child Life Specialist

Stephanie
CT Technician