

High Resolution Computed Tomography (HRCT)

You may be referred for an HRCT if changes are identified on your spirometry, chest x-ray or complex lung function test.



What is an HRCT?

Early coal mine dust lung disease and other respiratory conditions can be difficult to see on a regular chest x-ray.

An HRCT is a medical imaging scan that produces a much clearer and detailed image of your chest, including the lungs and heart.

This scan helps to identify if there is early disease and/or check for other damage when lung function results are abnormal.

How is an HRCT performed?

An HRCT scan is a painless and non-invasive procedure that usually takes between 15 and 30 minutes.

To capture the images, you will lie on an examination bench that slowly slides into the centre of the HRCT machine (see below).



The radiographer will tell you what to do via an intercom. For example, you may be asked to take a deep breath, fully exhale and/or keep still. You may be asked to roll over to take some images.

Note: If you feel anxious or are claustrophobic (afraid of small or confined spaces), please talk to the radiographer prior to the test.

Preparing for your HRCT

CS Health will contact you to assist with scheduling your appointment. The medical imaging provider will advise you what to do before your HRCT.

Costs

There is no cost to you for an HRCT when you are referred by CS Health.

HRCT results

After your HRCT has been completed, the images are processed and interpreted by a radiologist. A report will be sent to CS Health for review by a Medical Officer. Once the report has been reviewed, a CS Health team member will contact you to explain the results and advise if a referral to a respiratory physician is required.

Please contact CS Health if you have questions regarding your HRCT.