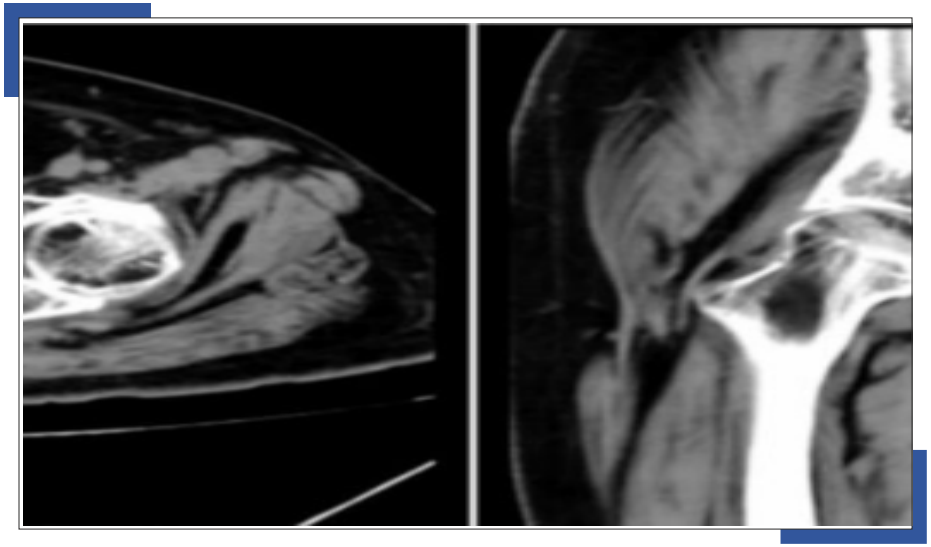
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Ghaziabad: Plot No 14 & 15, Block P, Sector 23, Sanjay Nagar, Ghaziabad
Near ALT Bus Stand, Phone No.: +91-9217244110
info@molecularit.com www.molecularit.com

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Understanding
CT Hip/Knee/Elbow Joint



What is a CT Hip/Knee/Elbow Joint?

A CT Hip/Knee/Elbow Joint is a type of computed tomography using X-rays and computerised imaging to provide detailed imaging of your hip/knee/elbow. This provides cross-sectional images of your bones and joints and allows your doctor to view any abnormalities in your joints. This will only be performed on the joint that has been specified by your doctor. Usually, contrast will not be required for this scan but may be required.

Why is it Performed?

This scan can be used to look at joint issues such as arthritis, injuries, bone lesions, bone abnormalities, dislocations and fractures. It can be used to look at and aid more complex issues regarding fractures, joints, bone damage and remodelling. It can be useful for your doctor to plan any surgery or to look at healing of some injuries.

Preparation

- Inform the imaging team if you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant.
- Tell the staff about any recent injury, surgery, or existing medical conditions.
- Carry your doctor's prescription and previous X-rays, CT scans, or other relevant medical reports, if available.

Procedure

You will be asked to be in a certain position so the correct joint can be scanned. Your joint will be put in place carefully. You may be asked to move along the table. You will need to stay still during the scan. Most joint CT scans will not require an injection; however, if required, contrast can be used.

Important Instructions

- Remove jewellery or metal objects near the examination area if requested.
- Inform the staff if positioning causes significant discomfort.
- Avoid moving the affected joint during image acquisition unless instructed.

Safety Precautions

Computed tomography uses specialist X-ray techniques (CT scan). The imaging team will ask if you are potentially fertile. Don't forget to mention if you need contrast, have any kidney, thyroid, or allergy issues, or have had any reactions to contrast in the past.

When to Seek Medical Attention?

If you are experiencing ongoing pain, swelling, stiffness, or difficulty moving your joint, please speak to your healthcare professional. If you have had an injury and are experiencing severe pain, obvious deformity, numbness, or an abnormally cold/pale limb, please seek urgent medical attention. The results of your scan should be interpreted by a specialist. Molecular Diagnostics and Therapy can help and guide you through the diagnostic process.