Contrast Reaction
What you need to know

This handout provides critical information about what to do if you have had a reaction to contrast, also called X-ray dye, CT dye, and MR contrast.

Why am I getting this handout?
You have had a moderate or severe allergic-like or hypersensitivity reaction to contrast, also called X-ray dye, CT dye, and MR contrast.

If you were to have another injection of contrast, without taking the right precautions, it could result in a more serious reaction, or even death.

What do I need to do?
• Tell all of your doctors, other healthcare providers, and anyone who schedules an appointment for you, that you had a reaction to contrast.

• Having a reaction does not mean you should never have a contrast injection in the future. It does mean that special precautions and considerations are needed if you have an exam that uses contrast. One of these precautions might be taking a steroid medicine ahead of time.

• Also, think about getting medic alert jewelry to wear. A medic alert bracelet or necklace tells emergency medical workers about your situation.

Questions?
Your questions are important. Call your doctor or healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns.
- UWMC Imaging Services: 206.598.6200
- Harborview Imaging Services: 206.744.3105
- Seattle Cancer Care Alliance: 206.288.7200

Be sure to tell all of your healthcare providers that you have had an allergic reaction to contrast.