# Contrast Agent Use in Medical Imaging: A Roadmap for Patients

### What is contrast and why is it used?

Contrast is a type of chemical that works like a dye. The dye helps radiologists interpret medical images.

Contrast is used in certain cases to obtain the following benefits:

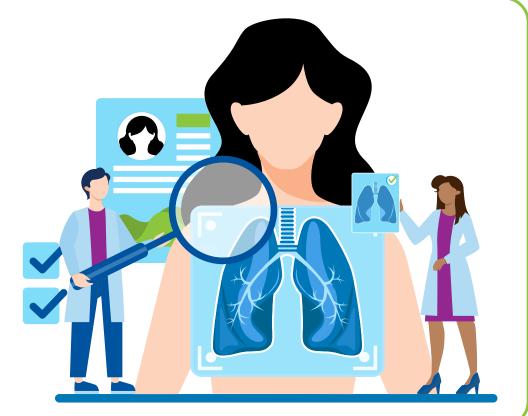


Highlighting of certain body features More accurate diagnoses Reduced need for follow-up imaging

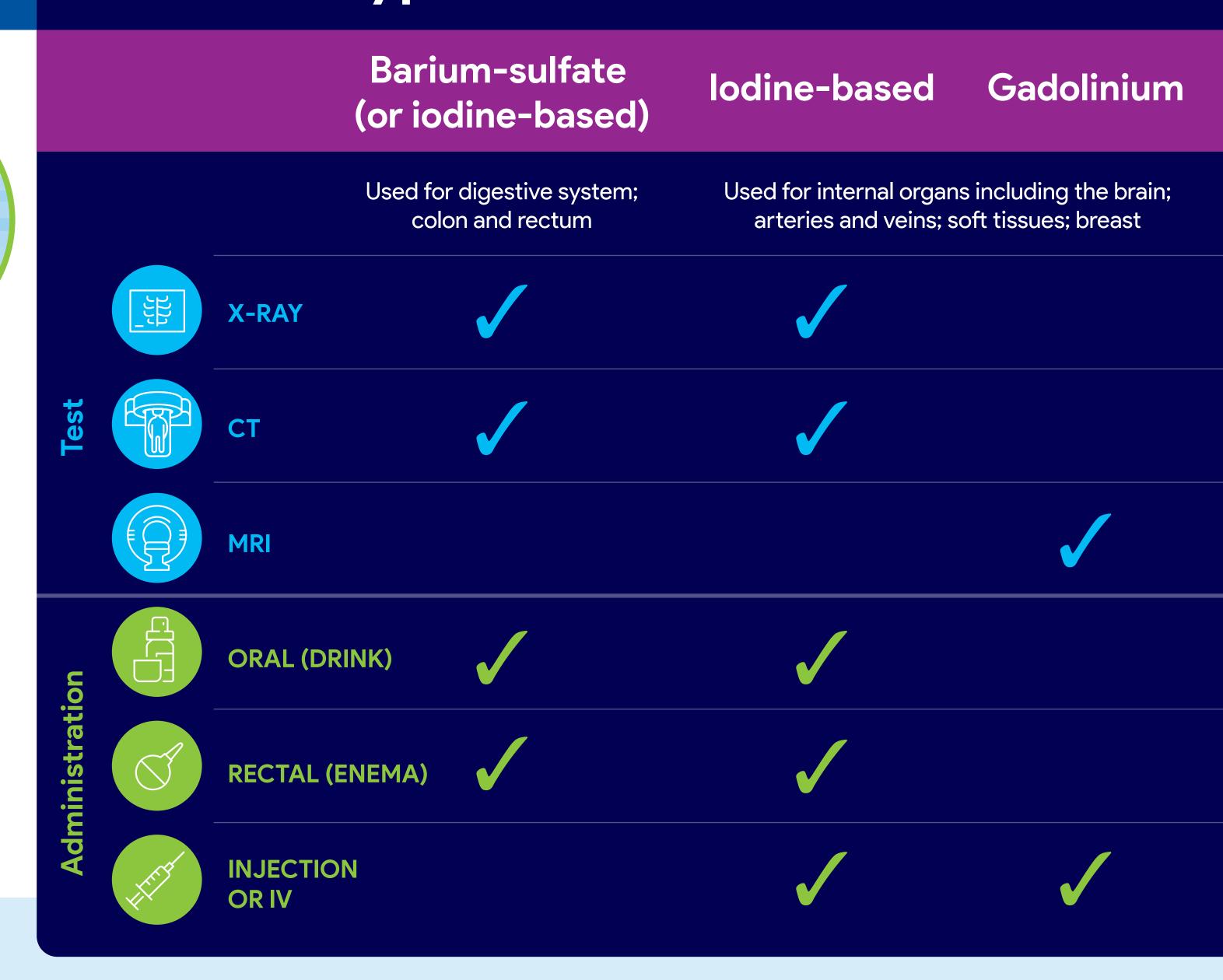
#### What else do I need to know?

Minor allergic reactions to contrast are uncommon but may occur. Severe allergic reactions to contrast are extremely rare. Your healthcare team is equipped to treat all reactions, from mild to severe, appropriately and safely.

Tell your doctor about your medical history (especially if you are a kidney patient on dialysis), any allergies you have, and any medications or supplements you take.



### Common Types of Contrast and Their Use



## Patient Journey



Healthcare team determines

if contrast is necessary for

imaging procedure based on

the referral

If it is determined that the use of contrast is not required, the patient moves on to the radiology exam



Radiologist
determines which contrast
agent is necessary for
optimal viewing



Patient acknowledges protocol



Medical Radiation
Technologist (MRT) reviews
process and patient receives
contrast injection or
ingests liquid



MRT or radiologist completes imaging procedure



Radiologist interprets the image



Radiologist discusses results with referring medical provider



Referring medical provider shares results with the patient