Taking Metformin
Before and After a Contrast Study

Contrast Study
• Your healthcare provider may order a test with contrast. Contrast dye is a medication that makes organs, blood vessels, or certain types of tissues such as a tumor easier for the healthcare provider to see.

Metformin
• Metformin is a drug used to treat diabetes and other conditions
• Metformin is the generic name of the drug and it has several brand names available
• There are also medications that contain metformin
  o Combination medications contain metformin and another ingredient

Brand name medications for Metformin are:
• Fortamet
• Glucophage
• Glumetza
• Riomet

Brand name medications that contain Metformin and one other ingredient are:
• Actoplus Met (includes Metformin and Pioglitazone)
• Avandamet (includes Metformin and Rosiglitazone)
• Glucovance (includes Metformin and Glyburide)
• Invokamet (includes Metformin and Canagliflozin)
• Janumet (includes Metformin and Sitagliptin)
• Jentadueto (includes Metformin and Linagliptin)
• Kazano (includes Metformin and Alogliptin)
• Kombiglyze XR (includes Metformin and Saxagliptin)
• Metaglip (includes Metformin and Glipizide) – This brand name medication is not available, however a generic option may be available.
• Prandimet (includes Metformin and Repaglinide)
• Synjardy (includes Metformin and Empagliflozin)
• Xigduo XR (includes Metformin and Dapagliflozin)
If you are having a test with contrast and you are taking Metformin:

- **STOP** taking Metformin the day of your contrast study. Your healthcare provider should tell you how to manage your diabetes while you are off of your medication. If you did not get this information, please call your healthcare provider.
- After the contrast study - do **NOT** take Metformin for at least 48 hours after your test.

**Contact your healthcare provider who manages your diabetes or other conditions where use of Metformin is prescribed.** Your healthcare provider will tell you when to begin taking Metformin. You may need to have blood work drawn to check your kidney function before you restart Metformin. Kidney function may be checked before restarting Metformin to make sure your kidneys are working right. Some contrast dye can cause changes in your kidney function. A RARE condition is called lactic acidosis.

**Lactic Acidosis**

Lactic acidosis occurs when your body makes too much acid and your kidneys can not get rid of the lactic acid. Lactic acid builds up in your bloodstream. It is rare, but it can have serious side effects.

**Signs and Symptoms of Lactic Acidosis**

- Breathing fast
- Confusion
- Feeling Sleepy
- Vomiting
- Headache
- Fruity smelling breath

**Symptoms of Low Blood Sugar are:**

- Blurred vision
- Confusion
- Sweating
- Cool, pale skin
- Drowsy
- Hunger
- Headache
- Nausea
- Hard to think
- Fast heartbeat
Symptoms of High Blood Sugar include:

- Blurred vision
- Drowsiness
- Dry mouth
- Dry skin
- Flushed skin
- Breath smelling fruity
- Loss of appetite
- Increased urination – urinating more often and urinating more in volume
- Breathing fast
- Increased thirst

Please contact your health care provider if you have any questions.