



Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

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The following information is a brief description of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). If you have any questions after reading this information, please speak with your nurse.

What Is Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)?

- An MRI can obtain very clear pictures (images) of various parts of the body without the use of x-rays. An MRI uses magnetic fields and radio waves to produce images.

What Preparation Is Needed?

- Tell the doctor or nurse if you have a pacemaker or any metallic objects within your body. Fill out the attached questionnaire and bring it to the MRI Department with you. If you answer yes to any of the questions on the front page, speak to your nurse.
- Do not use hair spray or wear makeup.
- Remove jewelry, eyeglasses, hearing aides, contact lenses and any removable dental work.
- If you are claustrophobic or get very anxious in enclosed areas, ask your doctor about ordering sedation for the exam.
- Avoid drinks with caffeine so it will be easier for you to relax during the exam.
- You may eat, drink and take your usual medications right up to the time of the exam unless instructed otherwise.
- Escort staff will bring you to the MRI suite in a wheelchair or on a stretcher. If you receive sedation, you will go on a stretcher.
- You will need to wear a hospital gown for this test.

Where Is the MRI Done?

- MRI suite, basement, Schwartz Health Care Center



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How Long Does The Procedure Take?

- MRI examination times vary. You will spend between a 1/2 and 1 1/2 hours in the MRI Department.

What Happens During The Procedure?

- Bring the signed questionnaire with you when you come.
- MRI staff will double check that any metal on your body has been removed.
- You will lie on a cushioned table and be positioned.
- Blankets are available since the room is cool.
- If you are to receive a contrast injection, an IV will be started if you don't already have one.
- The table will slide inside the MRI Scanner (the magnet).
- While inside the MRI Scanner, you will be in voice contact with the technician.
- The MRI Scanner makes a banging noise during the examination. You will be offered a head set to listen to music or ear plugs to reduce the noise level.
- It is very important that you do not move.
- When scanning is done, the technician will help you off the table.

What Happens After The Procedure?

- You will return to your room by wheelchair or stretcher.
- You may resume usual activities. However, if you receive sedation, rest until sedation wears off.
- Your doctor will review the results with you. The results are available to your doctor that day.

Special Instructions Or Questions