



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## **MAGNETIC RESONANCE ANGIOGRAPHY (MRA)**

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

### **WHAT IS A MAGNETIC RESONANCE ANGIOGRAPHY (MRA)?**

- ❖ A MRA can obtain very clear images of arteries and veins without the use of x-rays. Using MRI technology, a MRA uses magnetic fields and radio waves to produce images.

### **WHERE IS THE PROCEDURE DONE?**

- ❖ MRI suite, Basement, Schwartz Health Care Center.

### **HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?**

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



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### **WHAT PREPARATION IS NEEDED?**

- ❖ Inform the doctor or technologist if you have a pacemaker or any metallic objects within your body (see attached questionnaire).
- ❖ Do not use hair spray or wear makeup.
- ❖ Remove jewelry, eyeglasses, hearing aides, contact lens 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.
- ❖ You will need to wear a hospital gown for this test.
- ❖ 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.

### **WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE PROCEDURE?**



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- ❖ You must complete and sign a questionnaire.
- ❖ 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 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 Scanner makes a banging noise during the examination. You will be offered a headset to listen to music or earplugs to reduce the noise level.
- ❖ It is very important that you do not move.
- ❖ When the 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**

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