



Patient Information Tests and Procedures

MRI

MRI:

MRI of the Abdomen

MRI of the Brain

MRI of the Lower Extremity

MRI of the Upper Extremity

MRI of the Spine

MRI of the Abdomen (kidney, liver adrenal gland or pancreas)

What is the test?

- MRI is a test that uses a magnetic field and radio wave energy to provide pictures. MRI allows physicians to see single slices of the body, just as if you were slicing a loaf of bread. Physicians can view the inside of anatomical structures. In some cases MRI provides information that cannot be obtained from an x-ray, ultrasound or CT scan. MRI's of the abdomen are done for many different reasons some of which include tumors, cysts, metastatic disease or infection.

How do I prepare for the test?

- Before you are brought down to the MRI department, you will be asked, by your nurse, a series of questions about past medical procedures, such as, do you pacemaker, brain aneurysm clips, or any metal plates or pins in your body.
- If you have ever gotten metal in your eyes or removed from your eyes, you will need to have a series of orbital x-rays done before you enter the MRI suite.
- We will also need to know if you have any stents in your body. It is important to bring any stent cards with you so we know the kind of stent you have.
- When you arrive in the MRI department, you will be asked to remove all metal objects, such as glasses, hearing aides, hairpins, watches etc. You will be provided with a secure place to store your items during your exam.
- Before the exam, the MRI technologist will explain the procedure to you and answer any questions you may have.
- You do not need to be NPO for this exam.

What happens when the test is performed?

- A MRI of the abdomen can range from 30 minutes to 45 minutes depending on the images needed and whether or not a contrast agent is used. In some cases a contrast material may be used to enhance the images.

MRI of the Abdomen (kidney, liver adrenal gland or pancreas)

What happens when the test is performed? (Continued)

- The technologist will position you on the scanning table and you will be given a safety strap. A “coil” or a device will be placed over your abdomen and you will be given headphones or earplugs. They are used to block out some of the noise, as it will become very noisy when the scans are being performed. The headphones will allow you to hear music and to communicate with the technologist.
- You will be given a call button, in case you need something during the exam. The technologist will guide the table into the “magnet”. The technologist will not remain in the room with you, but will be able to observe you through a window in the adjacent room and will be able to hear and talk to you.
- It is extremely important that you remain very still during the procedure. The results of the test may not be accurate if you do not remain still. You may be given specific breathing instructions when needed.
- When your exam is done, your scans will be given to a radiologist, a physician who specializes in the diagnostic interpretation of medical images.

How long is it before the result of the test is known?

Typically you can get the results from your doctor within 24-48 hours of when the test is completed.

If there is anything we can do to make you more comfortable while in the MRI Department, please do not hesitate to ask.

MRI of the Brain

What is the test?

- MRI is a test that uses a magnetic field and radio wave energy to provide pictures. MRI allows physicians to see single slices of the body, just as if you were slicing a loaf of bread. Physicians can view the inside of anatomical structures. In some cases MRI provides information that cannot be obtained from an x-ray, ultrasound or CT scan. MRI's of the brain are done for many different reasons some of which include brain tumors, aneurysms, bleeding in the brain, MS, and strokes.

How do I prepare for the test?

- Before you are brought down to the MRI department, you will be asked, by your nurse, a series of questions about past medical procedures, such as, do you pacemaker, brain aneurysm clips, or any metal plates or pins in your body.
- If you have ever gotten metal in your eyes or removed from your eyes, you will need to have a series of orbital x-rays done before you enter the MRI suite.
- We will also need to know if you have any stents in your body. It is important to bring any stent cards with you so we know the kind of stent you have.
- When you arrive in the MRI department, you will be asked to remove all metal objects, such as glasses, hearing aides, hairpins, watches etc. You will be provided with a secure place to store your items during your exam.
- Before the exam, the MRI technologist will explain the procedure to you and answer any questions you may have.
- You do not need to be NPO for this exam.

What happens when the test is performed?

- A MRI of the brain can range from 15 minutes to 45 minutes depending on the images needed and whether or not a contrast agent is used. In some cases a contrast material may be used to enhance the images. The contrast material may help evaluate blood flow, detect some types of tumors and locate areas of infection.

MRI of the Brain

What happens when the test is performed? (Continued)

- The technologist will position you on the scanning table and you will be given a safety strap. A “coil” or a device will be placed over your head and you will be given headphones or earplugs. They are used to block out some of the noise, as it will become very noisy when the scans are being performed. The headphones will allow you to hear music and to communicate with the technologist.
- You will be given a call button, in case you need something during the exam. The technologist will guide the table into the “magnet”. The technologist will not remain in the room with you, but will be able to observe you through a window in the adjacent room and will be able to hear and talk to you.
- It is extremely important that you remain very still during the procedure. The results of the test may not be accurate if you do not remain still.
- When your exam is done, your scans will be given to a radiologist, a physician who specializes in the diagnostic interpretation of medical images.

How long is it before the result of the test is known?

Typically you can get the results from your doctor within 24-48 hours of when the test is completed.

If there is anything we can do to make you more comfortable while in the MRI Department, please do not hesitate to ask.

MRI of the Lower Extremity (foot, ankle, knee or hip)

What is the test?

- MRI is a test that uses a magnetic field and radio wave energy to provide pictures. MRI allows physicians to see single slices of the body, just as if you were slicing a loaf of bread. Physicians can view the inside of anatomical structures. In some cases MRI provides information that cannot be obtained from an x-ray, ultrasound or CT scan. MRI's of the lower extremity are done for many different reasons some of which include tears, fractures, ligament damage or infection.

How do I prepare for the test?

- Before you are brought down to the MRI department, you will be asked, by your nurse, a series of questions about past medical procedures, such as, do you pacemaker, brain aneurysm clips, or any metal plates or pins in your body.
- If you have ever gotten metal in your eyes or removed from your eyes, you will need to have a series of orbital x-rays done before you enter the MRI suite.
- We will also need to know if you have any stents in your body. It is important to bring any stent cards with you so we know the kind of stent you have.
- When you arrive in the MRI department, you will be asked to remove all metal objects, such as glasses, hearing aides, hairpins, watches etc. You will be provided with a secure place to store your items during your exam.
- Before the exam, the MRI technologist will explain the procedure to you and answer any questions you may have.
- You do not need to be NPO for this exam.

What happens when the test is performed?

- A MRI of the lower extremity can range from 30 minutes to 60 minutes depending on the images needed and whether or not a contrast agent is used. In some cases a contrast material may be used to enhance the images. The contrast material may help evaluate blood flow, detect some types of tumors and locate areas of infection.

MRI of the Lower Extremity (foot, ankle, knee or hip)

What happens when the test is performed? (Continued)

- The technologist will position you on the scanning table and you will be given a safety strap. A “coil” or a device will be placed over your extremity and you will be given headphones or earplugs. You will be given headphones or earplugs, they are used to block out some of the noise, as it will become very noisy when the scans are being performed. The headphones will allow you to hear music and to communicate with the technologist.
- You will be given a call button, in case you need something during the exam. The technologist will guide the table into the “magnet”. The technologist will not remain in the room with you, but will be able to observe you through a window in the adjacent room and will be able to hear and talk to you.
- It is extremely important that you remain very still during the procedure. The results of the test may not be accurate if you do not remain still.
- When your exam is done, your scans will be given to a radiologist, a physician who specializes in the diagnostic interpretation of medical images.

How long is it before the result of the test is known?

- Typically you can get the results from your doctor within 24-48 hours of when the test is completed.

If there is anything we can do to make you more comfortable while in the MRI Department, please do not hesitate to ask.

MRI of the Upper Extremity (shoulder, elbow, wrist or hand)

What is the test?

MRI is a test that uses a magnetic field and radio wave energy to provide pictures. MRI allows physicians to see single slices of the body, just as if you were slicing a loaf of bread. Physicians can view the inside of anatomical structures. In some cases MRI provides information that cannot be obtained from an x-ray, ultrasound or CT scan. MRI's of the upper extremity are done for many different reasons some of which include tears, fractures, cysts, infection, or swelling.

How do I prepare for the test?

- Before you are brought down to the MRI department, you will be asked, by your nurse, a series of questions about past medical procedures, such as, do you pacemaker, brain aneurysm clips, or any metal plates or pins in your body.
- If you have ever gotten metal in your eyes or removed from your eyes, you will need to have a series of orbital x-rays done before you enter the MRI suite.
- We will also need to know if you have any stents in your body. It is important to bring any stent cards with you so we know the kind of stent you have.
- When you arrive in the MRI department, you will be asked to remove all metal objects, such as glasses, hearing aides, hairpins, watches etc. You will be provided with a secure place to store your items during your exam.
- Before the exam, the MRI technologist will explain the procedure to you and answer any questions you may have.
- You do not need to be NPO for this exam.

What happens when the test is performed?

- A MRI of the upper extremity can range from 30 minutes to 60 minutes depending on the images needed and whether or not a contrast agent is used. In some cases a contrast material may be used to enhance the images. The contrast material may help evaluate blood flow, detect some types of tumors and locate areas of infection.

MRI of the Upper Extremity (shoulder, elbow, wrist or hand)

What happens when the test is performed? (Continued)

- The technologist will position you on the scanning table and you will be given a safety strap. A “coil” or a device will be placed over your extremity and you will be given headphones or earplugs. You will be given headphones or earplugs, they are used to block out some of the noise, as it will become very noisy when the scans are being performed. The headphones will allow you to hear music and to communicate with the technologist.
- You will be given a call button, in case you need something during the exam. The technologist will guide the table into the “magnet”. The technologist will not remain in the room with you, but will be able to observe you through a window in the adjacent room and will be able to hear and talk to you.
- It is extremely important that you remain very still during the procedure. The results of the test may not be accurate if you do not remain still.
- When your exam is done, your scans will be given to a radiologist, a physician who specializes in the diagnostic interpretation of medical images.

How long is it before the result of the test is known?

- Typically you can get the results from your doctor within 24-48 hours of when the test is completed.

If there is anything we can do to make you more comfortable while in the MRI Department, please do not hesitate to ask.

MRI of the Spine (cervical, thoracic, lumber spine)

What is the test?

- MRI is a test that uses a magnetic field and radio wave energy to provide pictures. MRI allows physicians to see single slices of the body, just as if you were slicing a loaf of bread. Physicians can view the inside of anatomical structures. In some cases MRI provides information that cannot be obtained from an x-ray, ultrasound or CT scan. MRI's of the spine are done for many different reasons some of which include spinal tumors, infections or herniated disc.

How do I prepare for the test?

- Before you are brought down to the MRI department, you will be asked, by your nurse, a series of questions about past medical procedures, such as, do you pacemaker, brain aneurysm clips, or any metal plates or pins in your body.
- If you have ever gotten metal in your eyes or removed from your eyes, you will need to have a series of orbital x-rays done before you enter the MRI suite.
- We will also need to know if you have any stents in your body. It is important to bring any stent cards with you so we know the kind of stent you have.
- When you arrive in the MRI department, you will be asked to remove all metal objects, such as glasses, hearing aides, hairpins, watches etc. You will be provided with a secure place to store your items during your exam.
- Before the exam, the MRI technologist will explain the procedure to you and answer any questions you may have.
- You do not need to be NPO for this exam.

What happens when the test is performed?

- A MRI of the spine can range from 25 minutes to 60 minutes depending on the images needed and whether or not a contrast agent is used. In some cases a contrast material may be used to enhance the images. The contrast material may help evaluate blood flow, detect some types of tumors and locate areas of infection.

MRI of the Spine (cervical, thoracic, lumber spine)

What happens when the test is performed? (Continued)

- The technologist will position you on the scanning table and you will be given a safety strap. You will be given headphones or earplugs, they are used to block out some of the noise, as it will become very noisy when the scans are being performed. The headphones will allow you to hear music and to communicate with the technologist.
- You will be given a call button, in case you need something during the exam. The technologist will guide the table into the “magnet”. The technologist will not remain in the room with you, but will be able to observe you through a window in the adjacent room and will be able to hear and talk to you.
- It is extremely important that you remain very still during the procedure. The results of the test may not be accurate if you do not remain still.
- When your exam is done, your scans will be given to a radiologist, a physician who specializes in the diagnostic interpretation of medical images.

How long is it before the result of the test is known?

- Typically you can get the results from your doctor within 24-48 hours of when the test is completed.

If there is anything we can do to make you more comfortable while in the MRI Department, please do not hesitate to ask.