



MRI PREPARATION

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) uses radiofrequency waves and a strong magnetic field to provide clear and detailed pictures of internal organs and tissues. Using highly specialized equipment, the MRI exam can be tailored to address the particular medical question being asked by you and your physician.

BEFORE YOUR EXAM:

- 1 You will be required to complete an MRI screening form that your technologist will review prior to your exam. If you would like to fill this out before your appointment you may request one from the Clinic. Just be sure to bring it with you to the appointment.
- 2 Most implanted devices are considered safe for MRI; **however, there are a few devices that are not safe.** If you have a pacemaker, defibrillator, or cerebral aneurysm clip, you will not be eligible for the exam. Please alert your physician if you have any of these devices. Additionally, devices implanted during surgery, such as cardiac stents, must be in place for at least 8 weeks prior to your MRI exam.
- 3 There are no fasting requirements for most MRI exams. You may eat, drink, and take your medications as prescribed.
- 4 Some MRI exams will require that you receive an injection of contrast. If you are above the age of 60 or have had kidney problems, it may be necessary to have blood drawn in the lab prior to the MRI to check your kidney function. **A previous history of kidney failure, dialysis, or liver transplant will prohibit you from receiving the contrast injection.** Please inform your physician and technologist of this prior to the exam.
- 5 If you are claustrophobic and require sedation, you will need to make arrangements with your physician for the medication prior to your exam date. If you will be sedated, you must have a driver with you to take you home.

Day of your exam:

- 1 During your exam, you will be positioned on a table that will travel into an open-ended tunnel where you remain for the duration of the exam. The machine will be very loud. We will provide hearing protection for you.
- 2 The MRI exam usually only lasts 25 minutes, but can last up to 45 minutes, depending on the type of exam you are receiving.
- 3 **We ask that you wear comfortable clothing with as little metal as possible.**