

Medical Imaging

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

MRI uses high-powered magnets and radio waves to produce images of organs and structures inside the body. The MRI scanner is shaped like a building block with a very large hole in the middle where the patient lies on a table during the exam. The picture quality is at its best in the center of the magnet. This is why the part of your body that your doctor needs examined is always placed in the center. The information collected by the MRI scanner is sent to a computer and translated into images. MRI can also be used for a tissue or fluid biopsy.

How do I prepare for an MRI?

- You may eat, drink and take medications as usual, unless your health care provider tells you otherwise.
- You must completely change into a patient gown. Please remove all piercings and leave all jewelry and valuables at home.
- If you've had an allergic reaction to contrast that required medical treatment, contact your ordering physician to obtain the recommended prescription for Prednisone 40mg by mouth 24, 12 and two hours prior to examination.
- If you require anti-anxiety medication due to claustrophobia, contact your ordering physician for a prescription. Please note that you will need someone else to drive you home.
- Due to the strong magnetic field, you must inform your doctor prior to the appointment if you have any metal in your body. If you have metal within your body that was not disclosed prior to your appointment,



your study might be delayed, rescheduled or cancelled upon your arrival until further information can be obtained.

Please notify us if you have any of the following:

- A pacemaker or have had heart valves replaced
- Any type of implantable pump, such as an insulin pump
- Metal plates, pins, metal implants, surgical staples or aneurysm clips
- You are pregnant or suspect you may be pregnant
- Body piercing
- A medication patch
- Permanent eye liner or tattoos
- You have ever had a bullet wound
- You have ever worked with metal (for example, a metal grinder or welder)
- Metallic fragments anywhere in the body
- You are not able to lie down for 30 to 60 minutes