

Your MRI Examination

frequently
asked
QUESTIONS  



MRI: A Fast, Simple Examination

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is a safe, totally painless way for your physician to look into your body without x-rays. The exam uses radiowaves and a magnetic field to create images of the soft tissues of the body.

How Long Will The Exam Take?

Most exams take about 30 minutes for conventional scan plus 10 minutes in standing position.

Will I Feel Anything?

No. There is no pain, vibration or unusual sensation. The MRI will produce a mild tapping sound during the exam.

What Do I Need To Do During The Exam?

Nothing! Just lie down on a table and relax. The scanner is open and airy and a small radio antenna (coil) will surround the part of your body being scanned.

What To Expect?

You will be asked to lie on a table and the technologist will position you comfortably. The table will then slide into the open magnet. Only the part of your body being imaged will be in the magnet opening.

In some cases, the magnet will be moved to a vertical position to do a 'stand-up' exam. Just lie down or stand and relax. It is very important to hold as still as possible during the exam to give your physician the best images.



What Do MRI Images Look Like?

MRI images look a lot like a conventional x-ray; however, they provide much more detailed information. The images will be provided to your physician or radiologist for interpretation.

What If I Have More Questions?

Your physician or the MRI technologist will answer any questions you may have.

How Should I Prepare For The MRI Exam?

You can eat, drink, and take regularly-prescribed medications before your exam. If you will be having a leg exam, you can bring some shorts to wear. Otherwise, you may be asked to change into a hospital gown to avoid the possibility of interference from metal in zippers and fasteners.

You will be asked to remove your watch, credit cards, jewelry, keys, pocket knife, hearing aid, or any other metal objects before approaching the MRI. The magnet could affect the items of this type or the items could affect the magnet.

Special Notes

Please DO NOT bring the following (or any metal items) into the examination room:

- Jewelry
- Credit Cards
- Pocket Knife
- Money Clip
- Keys
- Watch

Tell the doctor if you have:

- Aneurysm clips
- Metal plate/ pins
- Implanted electronic device
- Cardiac pacemaker
- Joint replacements
- If you think you are pregnant



Sample Images

