



MRI Patient Prep Information

APPT. DATE/TIME _____

Pre-registration and when to Arrive:

Please call **617-754-6000** to pre-register prior to arriving for your exam.

If you have pre-registered, Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your scheduled exam time and report directly to Patient Access, in the main hospital hallway, to obtain your paperwork.

If you **DO NOT** pre-register, please arrive 30 minutes prior to your exam time and report directly to Patient Access, in the main hospital hallway, to register and obtain your paperwork.

Outside Images:

If you have had imaging performed at other facilities (CT, X-rays or MRI), please bring a CD of those studies to have loaded into our system for comparison with the study you are having performed. This comparison helps the Radiologist with the interpretation of your exam.

Food and drink

There are no dietary restrictions. You may eat or drink anything you like before your exam.

Note: If you are having a Liver, Pancreas, or Spleen MRI, it is preferred that you only consume a light meal (not a full breakfast, lunch, or dinner) within 2 hours of your exam.

Contrast and Blood Testing

Some MRI exams require the use of a contrast agent intravenously (IV - in a vein in the arm) in order to give a clearer picture of the area being scanned. If your doctor has determined that the contrast will enhance your MRI scan results, the technologist performing your exam will place an IV in your arm prior to your going into the MRI room.

If you are over the age of 60, or have kidney disease, diabetes, lupus, or multiple myeloma, you may be required to have a blood test (Serum Creatinine) within 30 days of your exam, to make sure the contrast will be safe for you.

Medication:

It is important for you to keep to your regular medication schedule.

Please bring a current list with the names of any medication you are taking.

MRI Safety:

Because MRI uses a strong magnetic field, we will need to know about any metallic implants in your body. Your physician should be fully aware of these before approving and sending you for an MRI exam.

If you have an implant you must bring the following information to your exam:

- Manufacturer***
- Model number***
- Serial number***

For your safety, we MUST screen any implants you may have to make sure the MRI is safe for you. Under no circumstance should you have an MRI if you have a pacemaker. Some common implants include:

- * Pacemaker, AICD Device, Pacing Wires
- * Metal in the eye
- * Intracranial aneurysm clips
- * Heart valve, stent
- * Stimulator, pump



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What to Wear:

For most MRI exams, you will change into a hospital gown. Our changing areas are private and there is a secure locker for your clothes. It is best, however, if you leave your valuable items at home.

If you are wearing anything metallic, such as jewelry, dentures, eyeglasses, or hearing aids that might interfere with the MRI scan, we will ask you to remove them.

You should not have your credit cards in your pockets during the scan because the MRI magnet can affect the magnetic strip on the card.

Patients who are having a brain/head scan should not wear make-up as some brands contain metal.

Additional Information:

If you believe you are, or potentially could be, claustrophobic, please discuss with your physician prior to your MRI appointment. In some cases of extreme claustrophobia your physician may recommend medication for your exam.

Only the patient is allowed in the scan room. If you have a child, please make alternative arrangements, or have another adult accompany you to watch your child in the waiting room while you have your scan.

Patients under the age of 18 years need to be accompanied by an adult (parent or legal guardian)

After your MRI you can resume your normal activities. If you received I.V. contrast, increase your normal fluid intake for the following 24 hours, unless your physician objects.

Should you have any questions regarding your MRI, please call (617) 754-5381 and speak with a MRI technologist with any questions or concerns.