

SUMMARY OF THE EXAM

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is a noninvasive medical exam that uses a powerful magnetic field, radio wave energy and an advanced computer system to produce detailed images of the organs, soft tissues and bones within the body. The images help doctors diagnose and treat medical conditions without exposure to radiation.

WHAT TO EXPECT

You will be asked to change into a hospital gown and remove all metal objects such as jewelry, keys, watches, dentures, partial dental plates and hearing aids. You will be taken into a room with the MRI machine and transferred to the scan table. Earplugs are provided during the exam because the scanner makes a loud “knocking” noise.

The table will slide into the scanner tunnel. You will be asked to remain completely still while the images are obtained. The MRI tech will be just outside the room behind a large glass window at the scanner controls. There are speakers located in the scanner for the MRI tech to communicate with you at all times.

EXAM RESTRICTIONS

Because there is a high magnetic field used during the MRI, please let your doctor or nurse know if you have any of the following:

Heart valves	Aneurysm clips/coils
Cochlear implants	Neuro stimulator-TENS Unit
Stents of any kind	Implanted drug infusion device
Pacemaker, defibrillator, cardiac monitor	Shunt
Metal implants or any implanted device	IVC filter

MRI PREP

There is no prep for MRI except for the following:

- MRCP/MRI of the gallbladder – do not have anything to eat or drink for eight hours prior to your scheduled appointment time.
- If you are claustrophobic, please inform your doctor or nurse so that you can get medication to relax you for the exam.

LENGTH OF EXAM: The exam takes about 45-60 minutes, but you may be away from your room for about one and a half hours.