



WHAT TO EXPECT FOR MY MRI

MRI is a unique imaging modality that takes pictures of your organs and bones with the use of a magnetic field and radiofrequency pulses. The following information is to provide you, the patient, with the information you need to be fully prepared for your MRI scan.

1. It is important to wear comfortable clothing without zippers, buttons or metal and to remove bracelets, watches, earrings, necklaces or hair pins.
2. When you arrive for your procedure, the front office associate will provide you with all pertinent paperwork for you to complete prior to your scan. This includes the MRI screening form. The MRI screening form's purpose is to confirm that it is safe for you to enter the MRI room. This form screens for any potential metal you may have inside/outside your body. If contrast is ordered for your exam, a contrast screening form is to be filled out to confirm it is safe for you to receive IV contrast.
3. Once ready, the technologist will review which type of exam you are having, your symptoms, concerns or questions regarding your scan.
4. Once your questions are answered, the technologist will then position you on the MRI table. Depending on what part of the body is of interest, you may enter the scanner feet first or head first. The technologist will give you comfortable headphones during your scan (with the addition of ear plugs if requested) for several reasons:
 - a. To minimize the noise level of the scanner. MRI scanners make different noises when scanning. In addition, the technologist can verbally communicate with you during your scan.
 - b. To play your music of choice during your scan.
5. The technologist will also provide you with a "squeeze ball" to hold during the duration of you scan. This can be used if you feel at any time that you want to end the scan or exit the scanner.
6. If claustrophobic, your referring physician may prescribe you anti-anxiety medication to take prior to your scan. Proper instructions will be given to you by your referring physician in regards to taking the medication prior to your exam. Please do not take the medication prior to arrival as you will need to fill out paperwork. You will also need a driver.
7. After the exam is over, the technologist will remove you from the scanner and inform you when your referring provider may receive the radiologist's report. Your referring physician will be in contact with you to review the results.
8. Feel free to visit [**radiologyinfo.org**](http://radiologyinfo.org) to review more information on MRI exams.