

# What is MRI?

A magnetic resonance image exam uses a powerful magnet, radio waves and computer photographic techniques to obtain very clear images of areas of the body.

What is open MRI?

Open MRI is similar to the conventional MRI in that it uses a magnet, radio waves and imaging techniques. However, unlike its conventional counterpart, there are no narrow magnetic tunnels to travel through and no loud noises. It is an ideal option for large patients, claustrophobic patients, children, and for certain procedures, such as exams for the shoulders, knees, wrists and ankles.

Open MRI isn't appropriate for all exams and requires a longer exam time since the magnet is weaker than that of the conventional MRI.

What should I do before the exam?

You may be asked to read and sign the screening sheet. The technologist will take you to a private dressing room, where you may change into a gown and lock up your clothes and valuables.

Is there anything I should tell the technologist?

Please let the technologist know if you have a pacemaker, aneurysm clips, hearing aide or metal implants or metal particles in your body.

What should I expect during the exam?

You will be asked to lay down on the exam table. A coil will be placed around the area of your body to be examined. The technologist will then move that area to the center of the magnet. You will hear a loud tapping noise during the procedure. The study lasts approximately 45 minutes.

To schedule your appointment today, call 775-888-1180



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Tips for your exam:

- Arrive at least 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment.
- Wear comfortable clothes with no metal closures (cotton sweatsuit, sports bra).
- Eat a light meal before your exam and take medication as prescribed by your doctor.
- Ask for headphones or ear plugs if loud noise bothers you.
- Remain still during the exam, please. This will help keep the exam time short and keep from possibly having to repeat the study.
- The spacious opening helps keep anxious or claustrophobic patients relaxed and reassured
- Patient comfort module allows patients to adjust lighting, airflow and summon assistance
- Swing table gives every patient a clear, unobstructed view of the entire room and allows easy positioning

Is MRI safe?

Yes. An MRI is a painless, non-invasive procedure with no known side effects.

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