



The Oregon Clinic

Diagnostic Imaging Services

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

Our state of the art scanner is a high field (1.5 Tesla) system designed with an ultra short and wide bore with quiet technology, resulting in more room in the magnet and a 90% reduction in noise as compared to other machines. Our scanner is perfect for advanced applications such as MR Angiography (arteries and veins) and Cholangiography (bile ducts). We offer exceptional quality and flexibility in a convenient, comfortable, and caring environment.

What is Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)?

MRI is an advanced method of diagnostic imaging and does not use ionizing radiation, (x-rays). MRI is a safe and painless test that uses a strong magnet and radio waves to produce detailed cross sectional images of the body. Our MRI system has 8 channels and as a result can produce clearer images aiding in a more precise and accurate diagnosis.

What Is It Used For?

A MRI scan is used to define normal and abnormal structures in the body to include the brain, spines, joints, arteries, veins and in some cases the heart.

Can Anyone Have an MRI Scan?

Because MRI uses a strong magnet, you will be asked some medical questions at the time your exam is scheduled. Some implanted devices may not safely undergo the MRI exam, including pacemakers or cochlear (ear) implants. If you have an implanted device, stent, or shunt, please bring the make and model number of the device with you to your appointment. Upon arrival, your medical history will be reviewed by our highly trained MRI technologist and Radiologist to make sure you are safe to undergo the exam.

Preparing For the Ultrasound Exam

- Please arrive 15 minutes early. You will be asked to fill out a form that is specific for this exam.
- Upon arrival, our receptionist will greet you and introduce you to our technologist.
- In order to make you as comfortable as possible, we will ask you to change your clothes into scrubs that we provide and to remove hairpins, jewelry

(including body piercings and watches), eyeglasses, hearing aids, and removable dental work.

- A locker will be provided for your clothing and personal items.
- If you are pregnant or think you might be, you should notify your physician and our staff immediately.
- It is not safe to have a MRI if you have a cardiac pacemaker, implanted defibrillator or cochlear (ear) implant.

During the Exam

A certified MR technologist will prepare you for the exam by explaining and answering any questions that you might have before, during, and after the exam.

You will be asked to lie on a cushioned table and will be made as comfortable as possible with the use of pillows, sponges, and a warm blanket. You will need to lay as motionless as possible until the exam is finished—typically, the MR exam will take about 30-45 minutes, although some exams may take longer. The MRI technologist is available at all times to monitor the progress of your MRI exam.



On occasion, we may administer an intravenous contrast (IV) into your vein. The contrast will highlight the blood vessels and may improve the accuracy of the MRI scan. This contrast (dye) is not the same agent used in x-ray or CAT scanning. You should not feel anything from the contrast and after the exam it will pass naturally through the body usually within 1 day. If you are nursing you will not be able to breast feed for 24 hours after the contrast injection.

After the Exam

Once the exam is complete, you may eat and resume normal activity.

All of the images are available immediately for your doctor to review and a board certified specialized radiologist will study them and issue a report within 24 hours.