



Mercy
Radiology

Patient preparation for MRI

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (or MRI) produces detailed cross-sectional images of most parts of the body, using two naturally occurring forces to generate the images – magnetic fields and radio waves.

The preparation information listed below is for MRI breasts, spine, musculoskeletal (MSK) and brain procedures.

Please follow these steps before coming to your MRI appointment at Mercy Radiology:

1. Due to the strong magnetic field of the scanner, some patients may not be able to have an MRI examination. Please contact us directly if you have the following:
 - a. A cardiac pacemaker
 - b. Cochlear implants
 - c. Metal fragments in the eye
 - d. Metal clips on blood vessels in the brain
2. Continue to take all prescribed medication as usual.
3. You may be given intravenous contrast at the time of your examination to enhance the visualisation of certain organs. Before administering any contrast agent, the staff will ask you if you have any known allergies.
4. The duration of your appointment will alter depending on the area being investigated. You should allow at least 30-45 minutes for the majority of procedures, although some scans do require longer.
- 5. Please bring your referral form from your doctor or referrer.**
- 6. Please make sure you arrive at least 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment time.**

If you have any questions regarding your MRI appointment, please do not hesitate to call us on 09 623 5858. We look forward to seeing you.

The MRI Department

Note: If you have had a previous examination relating to this examination at another provider, you will need to bring these images with you. (If the related imaging was performed at a public hospital, you can advise us when you arrive for your appointment).