

General Info:

- Cannot scan patient without order
- Order requirements:
 - Patient information
 - Physician signature/correct contact information
 - ICD-9 code
 - Diagnosis/symptoms
 - Body part to be imaged
 - IV contrast
- Patients must be able to lie flat and hold still for 30-60 minutes
- Patients should be able to hold their breath
- MRI is noisy like a jack hammer; patients are given ear plugs and can listen to music during exam
- Large patients may be a tight fit within the MRI unit
- If patient needs an interpreter inform Radiology scheduling so arrangements are made for one to be present for exam

IV Contrast:

- Most MRI exams require IV contrast administration.
- Patients should be aware they will have an IV started.
- Dialysis patients should have dialysis within 24 hours post MRI.

Allergies to IV contrast agents:

- Follow protocol for pre-treatment.

Pacemaker:

- Patient will be scheduled 2 weeks out.
- Please speak with a radiologist to assure that MRI is the best imaging tool.
- Order the MRI as usual.
- Order a Cardiology consult to assess pacemaker.

Claustrophobic:

- Order PO sedation for the patient to bring with them to their MRI appointment.
- Instruct the patient MRI staff will inform them when to take medication.

Conscious Sedation:

- Write the order for this on the Radiology request.
- Radiology NP will contact the patient with instructions the day before the exam.
- Patients who have sleep apnea or other potential airway difficulties, obesity, involuntary movements or chronically debilitated are not candidates for IV conscious sedation.
- Oral anti-anxiety agents or general anesthesia may be more appropriate.

General Anesthesia:

- Call 404-712-0566 to schedule.
- Need an H/P within 30 days of MRI exam.
- Your service will need to sign off on the H/P the day of the exam; this is required by anesthesia.
- Your service will need to give verbal orders for the patient discharge once exam is complete.

Implants:

- Some are not MRI compatible and may not be safe.
- Please contact the MRI department at 404-778-5622 before placing the MRI order.

Pregnant or Nursing Patients:

- Consult with the radiologist prior to ordering MRI exam.

Small Bowel Exams:

- Soft diet day prior to the exam, take magnesium citrate (follow instructions on the bottle) and arrive in the department 1 hour prior to the appointment to drink contrast to coat the bowel.
- If the patient already has diarrhea or vomiting assess the need for the magnesium citrate.

Deep Brain Stimulator:

- Arrange for patient to have device turned off before coming to MRI and reset after exam.
- Can only do Brain MRI

Vagal Nerve Stimulator:

- Can only do Brain MRI

Reading Room numbers

Body – 404-778-5423

Neuro – 404-717-9250

MSK – 404-778-6265

Chest – 404-712-5014

IR – 404-712-7870