

MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging)

A MRI uses radio waves and a magnetic field to take pictures of soft tissues, organs and bones. It is a painless test with no health risks.

If you are pregnant or think you might be, tell the staff before the test.

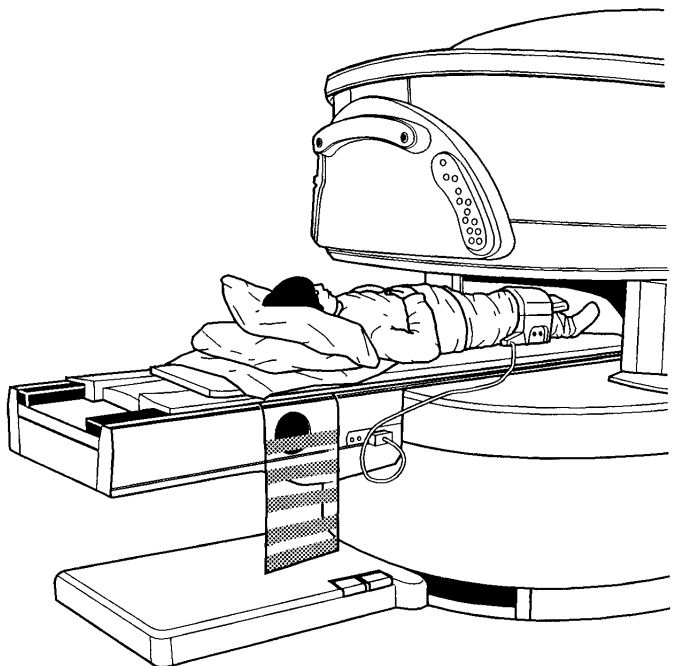
Arrive on time for your test. The test takes 30-60 minutes.

To Prepare

- Let the staff know **right away** if you:
 - Weigh over 350 pounds or 159 kg
 - Have any metal in your body, such as a pacemaker, replacement joint or plate
- Remove any items that can be affected by the magnet. These may include hairpins, jewelry, coins, dentures, keys, or credit cards.
- You will be asked to change into a hospital gown.
- You may have an IV (intravenous) put in your arm to give you medicine during the test.
- You may bring a CD or cassette tape to listen to help you relax during the test. We will provide a special headset to listen to the music.
- If being in a small space scares you, talk to your doctor before the test. Your doctor may order some medicine to help you relax.
- You can eat, drink and take your medicines before the test.

During the Test

- You will lie on a table in the middle of a long tube-like machine.
- The table slides into the opening of the machine until the part of your body to be checked is in the center.



- Your body and/or head go inside the machine, but the sides may be open.
- If you are having a test of your head, you may need to wear a helmet with a window.
- Lie very still during the test. You may sleep.
- You can talk to the staff through a speaker. Tell the staff if you need help or are uncomfortable.
- The machine makes a loud banging sound during the test. You are given earplugs to wear and may listen to music.

After the Test

Test results are sent to your doctor. Your doctor will share the results with you.

Talk to the staff if you have any questions or concerns.