

HOWELL ALLEN CLINIC
Imaging Office
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615-327-9543

ABOUT YOUR MRI

Your doctor has ordered a MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) for you. This is a specialized exam, which uses a magnetic field and radio waves to produce an image on a computer. There is no radiation involved.

During your scan the technologist will be in constant contact with you – they can see and hear you at all times. The technologist will make you comfortable on the table, provide you earplugs - then you will feel the table move. You will hear several different loud noises, some are knocking and some are humming sounds. During this time images are being made, and you will need to be very still.

Most exams take between 30-45 minutes to perform. If you are scheduled for a double study, the time will be longer.

There is no special preparation for a MRI, but **please be here 15 minutes prior to your scheduled time** to complete a short history form that is MRI specific. There are some limitations to have the exam: weight over 350 pounds, if you are claustrophobic, if you are pregnant, if you have a pacemaker or aneurysm clips, or metal fragments in your eyes.

You may be asked to change into a patient gown, and then the technologist will position you on the table. In some cases, your physician may prescribe for you to have a special “dye” to be injected into a vein.

A board-certified radiologist will review all images and a report will be sent to your doctor.

If you are claustrophobic, please notify your physician’s staff at 327-9543. They will enter orders for your exam, which can be done only certain times during the day. If sedation is required, you must be at the Imaging Office one (1) hour prior to your study.

Rev. 2/07, 2/08