

# Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Without or With Contrast

This instruction sheet has been prepared by Faith Regional Health Services Radiology Department. It includes the basic points of your care. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact them at 402-644-7584.

- The procedure is performed at FRHS West Campus Radiology Department.
- Enter the hospital through the main lobby and check in at the admitting desk 30 minutes prior to appointment time. Check in 45 minutes prior to MRI exam time your exam is with contrast and requires an IV to be started before your exam. Please arrive 2 hours early if you are to have Anesthesia sedation. Please have a driver available if sedation is scheduled, as you will not be permitted to drive for 24 hours.

## MRI Patient information

MRI scanners use strong magnetic fields and radiowaves to form images of the body, without exposure to ionizing radiation.

### Preparing for your test

Please wear comfortable clothing that is free of metal zippers, metal buttons or snaps. Please leave your jewelry at home when possible.

### Anesthesia Sedation patients

- Do not eat or drink (**NPO**) for 6 hours prior to exam.
- You will need a driver.
- Arrive **2 hours** prior to your exam.

### Pediatric Patients between the ages of 5-15:

- Pediatric patient should be able to lie still at least 30 minutes.
- If a pediatric patient is not able to lie still during an MRI, we may need to reschedule the patient with Anesthesia sedation on a different day.
- If it is determined that a pediatric patient will need sedation, our Anesthesia staff will be scheduled for the MRI. You will receive instructions prior to your child's exam.

### During your test:

The MRI exam usually takes 30-60 minutes to complete. It consists of several imaging exposures lasting 3 to 6 minutes each. The Registered MRI Technologist will position you on the cushioned MRI table. A device called a coil may be placed over or under you. This coil is designed to obtain the clearest images for the Radiologist and your Health Care Provider. When you are comfortably positioned, the table will move through the magnet. During the exposure time, you will hear a thumping or knocking sound. You will be given earplugs or headphones to help muffle the sounds. You will be in constant audio and visual contact with the Technologist during your exam. Try to relax and lie as still as possible. Any movement during the exam time will cause motion or a blurring of the images. If a contrast material is to be used for your exam an IV will be inserted before the MRI starts. The Technologist will inform you when the contrast will be administered.

**What happens after the examination?**

- If an IV was needed for your exam it will be removed following your MRI.

The results from your test will be interpreted by a Radiologist within 24 hours for your provider to discuss with you at your next scheduled office appointment.