Magnetic Resonance Imaging

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is a procedure that uses radio frequency waves and a powerful magnet rather than x-rays to take very detailed pictures of internal organs and tissues. Magnetic Resonance Angiography (MRA) is an MRI of the blood vessels. An MRI is a valuable tool in the diagnosis of many conditions including cancer, vascular disease, stroke, and musculoskeletal disease. A contrast dye which does not contain iodine may be injected through a vein in your arm to highlight certain tissues.

During the MRI, you will lie on a table. The table will move slowly into the scanner. You will be asked to lie still during the scanning sequences. You will hear different noises during the exam, like loud tapping or knocking. Earplugs and/or headphones will be provided. You will be able to communicate with the technologist at any time.

A radiologist will interpret your exam and a report will be sent to your physician, who will discuss the results with you.

Preparing for Your MRI

Because of the strong magnetic field, you will need to complete a short questionnaire about any metal objects in your body (joint replacements, pacemaker, artificial valves, IUD, implants, bullets or shrapnel). Surgical clips, pins, screws or staples usually do not cause a problem if they have been in place more than six weeks. Patient safety considerations may require that you change into a hospital-approved garment prior to your MRI. You will need to remove the following items before the MRI scan:

- Wallet
- Purse
- Coins
- Jewelry
- Keys
- Watch
- Credit Cards
- Eye Glasses
- Dentures
- Hair Clips
- Hearing Aids

- The procedure takes 30-60 minutes.
- Inform your physician or x-ray technologist if you are or may be pregnant.
- If you have known or suspected kidney disease, diabetes or hypertension, or you are over age 60, your physician may order lab work before the day of your exam to determine how well your kidneys are functioning.
- If you have concerns about anxiety or claustrophobia, please discuss this with your physician. He may want to prescribe an oral sedative for you to take before the exam. If you receive a sedative, you will need to have a family member or friend drive you home.
- Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment.
- Please bring a complete list of your medications, vitamins and supplements to your appointment.
- Please bring the physician order to your appointment.
An MRI scan is performed by appointment and is available at the following locations:

TriPoint Medical Center
7590 Auburn Road
Concord Township, OH 44077
**Scheduling: 1-866-652-5253**

West Medical Center
36000 Euclid Avenue
Willoughby, OH 44094
**Scheduling: 1-866-652-5253**

Mentor Campus
9485 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
**Scheduling: 1-866-652-5253**

Mentor Diagnostics
8401 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
**Scheduling: 440-205-1730**

Lyndhurst Diagnostics (open MRI)
5183 Mayfield Road
Lyndhurst, OH 44124
**Scheduling: 440-720-3000**

Willoughby Hills Diagnostics (open MRI)
34600 Chardon Road
Willoughby Hills, OH 44094
**Scheduling: 440-585-6163**