

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is a test that lets your doctor see detailed pictures of the inside of your body. MRI combines the use of strong magnets and radio waves to form an MRI image.

Before Your Test

- MRI uses strong magnets, so you'll be asked to remove your watch, jewelry, and other metal objects.
- You may be asked to remove your makeup, which may contain some metal.
- The test takes minutes. Allow yourself extra time to check in.

The magnet used in MRI can cause metal objects in your body to move. You may be asked about any of the following:

- If you've had any previous surgery
- If you have a pacemaker or other implants
- Metal splinters in your body
- Tattoos

Your technologist will also ask you whether:

- You're pregnant or think you may be
- You're claustrophobic (afraid of confined spaces)



You will be asked to hold very still during the scan.

During Your Test

- You may be asked to wear a hospital gown.
- You may be injected with contrast (a special "dye" that improves the MRI image).
- You'll lie down on a platform that slides into the magnet.

After Your Test

- You can get back to normal activities right away. If you were given contrast, it will pass naturally through your body within a day.
- Your doctor will discuss the test results with you during a follow-up appointment or over the phone.