

## WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT?

- The technologist may ask you to change into a gown and take off any metal objects that could affect image quality. This can include jewelry, hair accessories, hearing aids, glasses, wigs, etc.
- If you are or think you could be pregnant, please inform your technologist.
- Please inform the technologist if you have any type of metallic or magnetic items in your body - like a pacemaker, artificial heart valve, implantable heart defibrillator, medicine patches, or intracochlear device.
- A device called a coil will be placed around the area being scanned.
- During the exam, you will lay on a table that will slide into the MRI machine.
- When you are in the MRI scanner, you will hear noises from the machine. Earplugs or headphones must be worn for hearing protection and you can use the headphones to listen to music.
- If you are claustrophobic, your ordering physician may prescribe a mild sedative to help you relax. Any prescribed medications should be taken at least one hour prior to your study beginning and a driver must accompany you home.
- You must hold still during your MRI study. Movement can affect the quality of the MRI images and the procedure may need to be repeated.
- The technologist will be nearby in a separate room where he or she will be able to guide you through the exam. There is a 2-way intercom system between you and the technologist so you are able to communicate back and forth as needed.



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### Appointments ►

**(801) 773-4840**

extension #3712



# MRI IMAGING SERVICES



 **TANNER  
CLINIC**

## WHAT IS A MRI?

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is a technique that uses a powerful magnetic field and radio waves to create detailed images of the organs and tissues within your body. The MRI scanner is shaped like a tunnel and is very sensitive to motion. It is used to view soft hydrogen filled tissues. Procedure times typically last 20-40 minutes for each scan.

## WHICH WAY DO I GO INTO THE MRI MACHINE?

Depending on what anatomy is being scanned will determine how you are placed into the MRI machine. If the procedure is to look at anatomy between your toes and hips, you will be placed feet first. If the procedure is to look at anatomy between your hips and head, you will be placed head first.



## WHAT IS CONTRAST AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Intravenous contrast may be used to highlight areas of your body so the radiologist can make a more accurate diagnosis. This happens by making abnormal tissues with different cell structures enhance differently from other tissues surrounding it. The contrast agent used is called Gadolinium. Gadolinium is a clear solution that will be injected intravenously into your hand or arm.

*\*If you are over 65 and have had kidney issues in the past, a kidney blood test will be required before the scan to ensure it is safe to use Gadolinium contrast. After the exam, the technologist may have you wait for a few minutes to ensure there are no complications with the contrast.*

## WHAT ARE SOME USES OF AN MRI?

MRI gives health care providers useful information about a variety of conditions and diagnostic procedures including:

- abnormalities of the brain and spinal cord
- injuries or abnormalities of the joints
- the structure and function of the heart
- areas of activation within the brain
- blood flow through blood vessels and arteries
- the chemical composition of tissues



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## RESULTS

After the MRI study is complete, the images will be read by a radiologist and a report will be sent to your referring physician who will review the results with you.