

Patient Considerations for MRI

Before the Exam

If you have had previous exam upon the same body region, please provide prior films and/or reports for comparison.

Patients having MRCP (MR Cholangiopancreatography) or MRI of the Abdomen, we ask that you refrain from eating anything four (4) hours prior to your exam. However, **plenty of fluids are recommended** before your exam.

For any other body part, you may eat and drink normally and take your medications as usual. If your exam is in the afternoon, please drink plenty of fluids.

Please wear loose clothing such as sweatpants. Refrain from wearing clothing with excessive metals. We recommend you leave any removable valuables at home though lockers are available.

This procedure uses a strong magnetic field. You will need to advise Centrelake staff if you have any of the following:

- Heart pacemaker
- Pregnancy
- Intrauterine devices/Stimulators
- Metal Fragments (bullets, Sheetmetal worker, etc.)
- Artificial cardiac valves (please provide ID card with specifics of valve replaced)
- Bone, joint replacement, spinal rods, or metal plates
- Brain aneurysm clips (please provide ID card with specifics of surgical clips)
- Any other previous surgery
- Shunts
- Stents
- Neuro-stimulators
- Inner ear implants

Patients who are or may be claustrophobic should advise Centrelake staff at the time of scheduling. Adults who are not pregnant and can arrange for a ride home may be able to purchase sedatives to assist in the completion of their exam. Please contact our scheduling department for more detailed information.

During the Exam

The exam is safe and painless. You may be asked to wear a gown which will be provided for you. You are advised not to wear any jewelry or watches to your exam. If ordered by physician, you may be injected with a Gadolinium contrast which may aid in offering a better result. You will be asked not to move for a period of time, which may cause mild discomfort. Please plan for the actual exam to last about 30 to 60 minutes.

After the Exam

You may leave immediately after the exam and return to your normal activities. Your referring physician will receive a dictated report within 48 hours.