

IMAGING DEPARTMENT

MRI/ENTEROGRAPHY

Your doctor has scheduled you for an MRI Enterography. There are a few things you should know about before you arrive at the MRI Department. Any person with a PACEMAKER or NEUROSTIMULATOR must be approved by MRI prior to scheduling appointment.

PREPARATION: You will not be able to eat or drink anything for 6 hours prior to your test. If you take medication routinely and cannot take earlier, please take with just a sip of water. If there is any concern with claustrophobia please address this with you physician.

BEFORE THE TEST: You will also be asked to change into a hospital gown for the test. All jewelry, body piercing and hair accessories will need to be removed as well as dental work and hearing aids. For your safety, you will be asked to fill out an MRI screening form, which will be reviewed by the technologist prior to testing.. Among the things you will be asked are:

What kind of symptoms are you having?

Do you have any implanted stents, metal, mechanical or electronic devices? Have you ever had an injury to your eyes or body with any metal?

List any surgeries?

Whether or not you are (or may be) pregnant or breast feeding.

You will be asked to drink oral contrast that will line the stomach and bowel loops. It is ingested as a liquid and will be expelled liquid. Consent for an injection of contrast will also be obtained.

THE TEST: Because MRI is loud you will be given headphones for hearing protection and to allow the technologist to give instructions on breathing. You will be asked to hold you breathe multiple times for 10-25 seconds .

You will be lying on your back, with every attempt made to make you as comfortable as possible. Pillows can be used under the knees and head. A band will be put around the waist to monitor breathing and a light weight imaging device called a coil, on top of your abdomen. You will be placed feet first into the machine with arms possibly above your head. In one hand you have a squeeze ball for calling the technologist at any moment should you need immediate assistance. The technologist will not be in the room during the test. They will be watching you through a window at a computer station.

The test is very motion sensitive. Because of this you will be given 2 injections during the test of glucagon, a substance that will stop your bowels from moving. You will also be given an injection of contrast, gadolinium to help in aid in looking at the abdomen. The test will take between 45-60 minutes.

AFTER THE TEST: There are no side effects from having an MRI. However the liquid you drank may give you the urgency to use the restroom. We suggest going back home immediately following the test.

RESULTS: The radiologist will review you images in great detail after you have left the department, and will dictate a report which will be sent to your physician within 48 hours. Your technologist will be unable to give you any results.