



MRI Scan-Head with Contrast Procedure

To Schedule: (319) 398-6794

Questions about Procedure: (319) 398-6050

701 10th Street SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403-1292
319 398-6011

What is a MRI?

A MRI scan produces dimensional images by using a large magnet and radio waves. It is a way of looking inside the head without using x-rays. A strong magnetic field is created and a radio frequency is beamed into that magnetic field. Measurements of energy from the tissue being scanned are sent to the computer where the screen image will be recorded. Your MRI scan will take approximately 20-30 minutes.

Preparation:

You may eat and drink before the exam and take your medications. The day before your exam drink plenty of water so you are well hydrated. Being hydrated will ease the discomfort of the contrast injection.

Patients who are claustrophobic may require sedation prior to the MRI scan. The ordering physician must order the prescription for oral sedation. Patient must pick up medication from pharmacy of choice. Patient should take Oral Sedation 1 hour prior to the exam. Patient must have a driver to bring and pick up from the procedure.

Persons not allowed to have a MRI:

1. Persons wearing a pacemaker/defibrillator
2. Persons who are pregnant
3. Persons who have brain surgery with aneurysm clips
4. Persons who have metal shrapnel in eyes
5. Persons who have ear implants.

PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:

A PHOTO ID TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY

A LIST OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS YOU ARE TAKING

Procedure:

It is important to lie still throughout the entire exam as any motion may distort the image. During the exam, you will hear LOUD knocking sounds so you will be given earplugs. Your exam is ordered with an IV contrast to be given half way through the exam. If you are over 50, diabetic or have high blood pressure, a blood test called serum creatinine is needed. This can be done within 30 days of the exam, or at the time of the exam.

Parking/Registration:

Park in the Mercy Medical Center 10th Street Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 10th Street and 8th Ave. SE. You will be pre-registered, so you can proceed to

Ground (G) level and follow the signs to “Radiology (X-Ray),” also located on Ground (G) level.

Procedure Results (Who interprets the results):

A radiologist will review the images shortly after the exam is completed. A written report will be sent to your doctor. Your doctor will discuss the results with you. Please allow your physician time to review these results, usually 2 business days after the exam.

Your appointment date and time:

Procedure date: _____

Procedure time: _____ (Please arrive 15 minutes early)