



FULL-SERVICE, ALL DIGITAL IMAGING NETWORK

### 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 for 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
- Shuts
- Stents
- 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
- Neuro-stimulators
- Inner ear implants
- Intrauterine devices/Stimulators
- Metal Fragments (bullets, sheetmetal worker, etc.)

**For patients receiving contrast during the exam:** if you are 60 years or older, diabetic, have kidney disease or a history of improper kidney function, **you must complete a blood test evaluating your B.U.N. (blood, urea & nitrogen) and Creatinine** levels prior to performing your MRI. These lab results will allow our radiologists to determine if your body can safely receive the Gadolinium contrast.

#### **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 your physician, you may be injected with a Gadolinium contrast which may aid in offering a better result. The exam is completely painless. You will be asked not to move for a period of time that 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.

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