

MRI Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How does an MRI work?

A. Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) uses magnets to create a magnetic field, send radio waves through your body, and then create an image or picture of the inside of your body with a computer. MRIs are very safe and have no known harmful effects.

Q. Are there any restrictions with getting an MRI?

A. Yes. Because the MRI machine uses very strong magnets to create an image, let your doctor know if you have any of the following conditions:

- A pacemaker
- Metal implants
- Steel surgical staples or clamps
- Cochlear implants
- Hearing aids
- Dentures or dental implants

Do not bring any of the following items into the exam room: coins, jewelry, watches, keys, phones, bank cards, or credit cards.

Let your doctor know if you are claustrophobic. You may wish to schedule an MRI at an “Open” MRI machine to decrease the risk of claustrophobia.

Q. Are there any advantages to getting an MRI performed at one facility or another?

A. Convenience of location may be a factor for you. The list identifies nearby MRI facilities and the address of each facility.

If you previously had an MRI, your doctor may request that you go back to the same facility that did the previous scan so that he or she can compare the MRI results.

There may be advantages to having your MRI performed at Multi-Specialty HealthCare MRI. These advantages include:

- Having your results communicated more quickly to your Multi-Specialty provider; and
- Continuity of care by using a facility affiliated with Multi-Specialty.

Q. What will I have to pay for the MRI?

A. It depends on your insurance and the facility you choose to perform the MRI.

If you have been injured in an automobile accident, some MRI facilities may require you to: (1) have Personal Injury Protection remaining; (2) have an authorization and assignment of benefits signed by you and your attorney; (3) have valid health insurance that can be billed with you being responsible for co-payment and deductible; or (4) pay up front for your MRI. Multi-Specialty HealthCare MRI does not require an up front payment or insurance pre-authorization.

If you are involved in a Workers’ Compensation claim, some facilities may require you to: (1) have a valid authorization from your insurance company guaranteeing payment; or (2) have health insurance that can be billed with you being responsible for any co-payment and deductible. Multi-Specialty HealthCare MRI does not require an up front payment or insurance pre-authorization.