

Care Gram

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

Date of Test: _____ **Test Time:** _____

Welcome

Welcome to Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) Radiology Department. Your doctor has requested a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) test. MRI is a diagnostic tool for obtaining more precise images of tissue within the human body. MRI does not involve radiation or radioactivity.

How the Test Works

- MRI uses a more powerful magnetic field and radio frequency to make precise images of the human body. MRI does not use X-rays to produce images.

Allowing Time

The length of your MRI test depends on the area of your body being studied. In general, it takes about 1 hour. You should allow more time for your visit.

Preparation

- MRI and MRA Abdomen (liver, kidney, renal arteries, etc.)
 - Nothing to eat or drink for 6 to 8 hours before the test.
- MRI Cholangiogram (MRCP), test of the bile ducts
 - Nothing to eat or drink for 6 to 8 hours before the test.
 - You may take prescribed medications with 4 ounces of water.
- All other MRI tests
 - No special preparation.
 - You may eat and drink before the test and take your prescribed medications.

Your Role

1. Let the MRI staff know right away if you have a cardiac pacemaker, aneurysm clip, any type of metal shrapnel, or metal fragments inside your body.
2. Let the MRI staff know right away if you are pregnant, think you might be, or weigh more than 440 pounds.
3. Relax during the test. You may breathe normally. You will be asked to lay as still as possible.



**Licking Memorial
Health Systems**

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Page 1 of 2

Registering

Please report directly to the Radiology Department on the first floor of LMH. Come to this area 30 minutes before your scheduled test time.

During the MRI

- You may be asked to change into a hospital gown, depending on the area of the test. There will be a locker for your clothes and personal items. You will be given a key to the locker to keep your items safe.
- The test involves the use of a strong magnet. You must leave behind any magnetic sensitive objects. These include watches, rings, other metal jewelry, hairpins, and non-permanent dentures. The information encoded onto bank cards and credit cards may be erased if exposed to a magnetic field. Please leave these in your locker as well. You may bring a favorite CD to listen to during your test.
- For this test, you will be inside a magnetic field. The part of your body being tested will be in the center of the cylinder of the scanner. You will hear a loud knocking sound like a drum beat during the test. You must stay still at this time. You can use earplugs if you want.
- The MRI staff can hear you through an intercom in the magnet during the whole test. If you become uncomfortable at any time, just say so and a staff member will assist you.
- Depending on the type of test, a contrast agent or “dye” may be needed to get a sharper picture. The doctor will decide if you need the dye. It will be given by intravenous injection.

After the Test

The MRI staff will go with you to the waiting area. You may then change and get your personal items from the locker. If you had dye, it will be eliminated through your urine. It should not discolor your urine or bowel movements.

Finding Out the Results

The radiologist will study your test and give the findings to your doctor. Your doctor will talk to you about the results.

Reminder

- If you have any questions about your test, please call (740) 348-4710.
- Go to the Radiology Department on the first floor 30 minutes before your test.