

Screening for MRI Compatibility

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Patient Screening

All patients having a MRI must be screened prior to the study being performed. Screening forms with the necessary questions are available from the MRI section.(see attached) This is not a consent form. It verifies the questions pertaining to contraindications have been asked and the patient's answers. Any yes answer should be explained. In some cases the approval of the Radiologist may be required to proceed with the MRI.

The white copy of the screening form goes with the patient's medical record and the yellow copy is kept in the MR Section for up to one year. These forms may be referred to for patients with prior studies.

Metallic Implants

Parents of children under the age of 18 should sign for the patient. Relatives of patients unable to give a satisfactory history should sign for the patient. In the event a patient is unable to give an adequate history and there is no relative available, the physician on the ordering service may sign the screening form. If there is doubt about the FB to orbit, aneurysm clip or a pacemaker, appropriate films should be taken, then reviewed by the Radiologist.

Patients with any history of metal Foreign Body to the orbit need 2 views of the skull to r/o metal FB to the orbit. These will be read by a Radiologist before the patient is approved for exam.

Pregnancy

Patients suspected of being pregnant will not be scanned unless the risk/benefit has been evaluated by an attending Radiologist. If the MRI is indicated, an informed consent will be obtained by a Radiologist. (See attached consent for pregnancy form.)

Each patient will be personally screened by a technologist or technologist assistant. This verifies the patient understands the questions and the answers. Every effort will be made to take the patient aside to screen the patient in private, i.e. not in the waiting room with other patients. Please advise the patient of a time they will be having the exam. Inform the patients if there are extended delays.

Proper screening of patients for MRI exams is important for patient safety.

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