



# MRI Patient Information Sheet

---

An MRI scan has been ordered by your Primary Care Provider. The reason for the MRI scan will come from them and any questions you may have should be referred to them. To help you prepare for your scan, LACGH MRI has listed the steps which should assist you in making this a seamless exam.

## 1. Scheduling the MRI scan

When the MRI Booking Office receives your completed requisition from your Doctor, you will be called and asked a series of questions pertaining to your past medical history and surgeries. This relates to safety for your MRI. This is very important since MRI uses a very strong magnet to produce your images. Once this screening process is completed and there are no further documents required, you will be given an appointment date and time. Also, if there are any specific instructions that pertain to your MRI scan, they will be given to you at this time. If no instructions are given, then please arrive at the appointment time given.

## 2. MRI scan Specific Instructions

Some MRI scans may require specific instructions prior to your appointment. It may require you not to eat for 3 hours before your scheduled appointment. This means NO Food or Drink (including water) for 3 hours before. Sips of water can be taken for medications.

## 3. Claustrophobia

Claustrophobia is a very common concern for MRI patients. If you are claustrophobic, please discuss this with your Doctor prior to your appointment to determine if medication would be beneficial for you. Please note that LACGH-MRI department does not provide any medication for claustrophobia so this needs to be arranged through your Doctor prior to your arrival. Please note: There is an on-site pharmacy where you can get your prescription sent to/filled – Paul's Lenadco Pharmacy

## 4. The Appointment Day

Since MRI produces strong magnetic fields, before your appointment please remove the following: all jewelry (including wedding bands), hair clips/pins, and all body piercings. All patients are required to completely change into hospital clothing that will be provided as many clothing articles and undergarments are made with metal threads. Additional items that will need to be removed prior to your scan are: hearing aids, dentures, medication patches, diabetic sensors, glasses and other personal items. These will be secured in a locker provided. Please remember that LACGH is a scent free hospital.



# MRI Patient Information Sheet

---

## 5. MRI scan with Intravenous Contrast Injection (Gadolinium)

You may be receiving an injection of contrast dye for your MRI exam. The purpose of contrast is to highlight tissues in the body or brain and to better visualize small structures. The contrast provides an overall better scan. Please notify the MRI Booking Clerk at the time of booking if you are on dialysis and if you have a known allergy to MRI contrast dye.

## 6. After your MRI scan is Completed

Most routine MRI exams do not require any post-exam care and you will be free to drive home. However, if you are taking claustrophobia medications, you must have someone drive you home after the MRI appointment. A Radiologist will review all the images from your scan, make a report and provide a copy to your Primary Care Provider/Doctor. This process typically takes 3-5 business days. Additionally, you can access your reports through PocketHealth (<https://www.pockethealth.com>)

## 7. More Information

Due to the limited amount of space in the department, please limit the amount of people with you. If you require assistance with language translation to English, reviewing your surgical history, changing, using the bathroom facilities, or have mobility issues, please bring someone with you.

Please plan to be at your MRI appointment for approx. 1 hour for a basic MRI scan. This may be longer (1.5- 2 hours) for more complex scans and/or for unforeseen emergency cases. We ask for your patience.

If you plan on being late, please call ahead to confirm we can keep your appointment time. If you are late for your appointment by 10 minutes and have not called, we may have to reschedule your MRI appointment. As per LACGH SOP - [Late Arrival and No-Show Management - SOP.pdf](#)