Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's HealthCare

Patient Instruction Information: MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING (MRI)	Your Appointment Information
	Date: _____
	Time: _____
	Location: _____

What Is It?

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) uses a large magnet, radio waves and computer equipment to produce images of the human body. People with certain metal implants in their bodies (like a pacemaker or defibrillator) should not undergo routine MRI. Please tell your ordering doctor about any implants or shrapnel in your body prior to the study. If you are over 60 years of age, have high blood pressure, diabetes, one kidney, or kidney of liver disease, you will need to have recent blood work which includes kidney function tests, if you doctor has ordered contrast. An MRI is not painful, but the machine is loud, and you will be given ear plugs. During an MRI, you must lie on your back or stomach (Breast MRI), motionless in the scanner. The MRI scanner is a relatively small space. Please let your doctor know if you are claustrophobic (fear of small spaces) before you come for the test. The MRI does not expose you to x-rays.

How Long Will I Be Here?

- Prep - 15 minutes
- Test - 30 minutes to 1 hour

ENTIRE TEST - Approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes

* Breast MRI, Cardiac MRI, arthrograms and biopsy procedures will likely run longer

What Do I Need To Do To Prepare?

- Arrive 30 minutes before appointment time to register
- Inform staff and physician of any food or drug allergies
- Bring a copy of your order (if you have it)
- Bring insurance card and referral numbers (if required)
- Inform staff of any potential pregnancy
- Bring a list of medications with you
- Please bring your prior outside studies of the same body part with you to the test
- If having a breast MRI, please bring your prior mammograms or MRI studies with you to the appointment… failure to do so will result in a delay in your study being read
- Wear comfortable clothing without metal pieces or parts
- Remove all jewelry including piercings and bobby pins in hair
- You will leave canes, oxygen tanks, wheelchairs and walkers outside MRI suite (MRI staff will help you)
- Leave wallets (credit cards) outside the suite with a family member or in a secure locker provided to you
- Never enter an MRI suite unless a technologist is present!