

If you have further questions before the examination, please consult your physician. You are welcome to call us at:

1 800-352-7254

(715) 234-6518

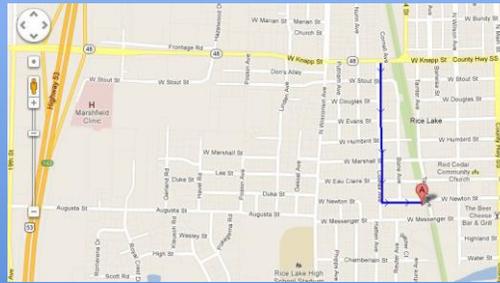
Fax: 715-234-7394

Your Examination is scheduled for:

TIME:

DATE:

Please check in with the Shared Medical Staff.



Highway 53 to Rice Lake Exit Highway 48 (Knapp St)

East on Knapp St 0.9 miles to Cornell Ave.

South on Cornell 7 blocks to Newton St

Left on Newton St 2 blocks on right

Shared Medical Technology

202 West Newton Street

Rice Lake, Wisconsin



Shared Medical  
Technology

Magnetic  
Resonance  
Imaging

Rice Lake,  
Wisconsin

# MRI Magnetic Resonance Imaging

Magnetic Resonance Imaging, or MRI, is an advanced state-of-the-art method that produces very clear pictures, or images, of the human body without the use of X-rays. MRI uses a large magnet, radio waves, antenna and computer to produce these images.

## How Does MRI Work?

The human body is made up of millions of atoms that are magnetic. When placed in a magnetic field, these atoms line up with the field, much like a compass points to the North Pole. Radio waves, tuned to a specific frequency, tip these tiny magnets away from the magnetic field. As they tip, they gain energy. When the radio waves are turned off, the atoms try to realign with the magnetic field, releasing the energy they gained as very weak radio signals. A powerful antenna picks up these signals and sends them to a computer, which performs millions of calculations to produce a black and white image for diagnosis.

## The Advantages of MRI

The average MRI examination takes 30-90 minutes. During this time, several dozen images may be obtained. These images assist us in making a diagnosis and may even eliminate the need for biopsy or surgery.

The MRI exam is safe for the accepted patient.

## Preparing for the Examination

When you check in at Shared Medical Technology's facility, the technologist will guide you to the MRI preparation area. You will be interviewed about your past medical and surgical history. The technologist will explain the examination process to you in detail and answer any questions you may have. You will be asked to sign consent forms or any other forms that are applicable to your treatment.

The technologist may have you change clothes due to metal on your clothing. You will be asked to put on shorts or a gown. Your clothes and valuables will be put in a locker.

## What Can You Expect During the MRI Exam?

Although MRI is a very advanced medical technique, the MRI exam is probably one of the best-tolerated examinations you may ever experience.

The technologist will have you lie down on a cushioned table. Once you have been comfortably positioned, the table is moved inside the magnet. You'll be in a tube that is well lit and has good airflow. An intercom system keeps you in constant contact with the technologist throughout the procedure and in most cases music is provided.

During the examination, you may feel a slight vibration and hear a rhythmic drumming noise that sounds like a jackhammer. There are no other physical sensations to expect.

You should try to lie as still as possible since any movement will blur the picture. When the scanning is complete the technologist will return to assist you off the table.

## For Your Personal Safety

If you are scheduled for an MRI examination, please inform your doctor or the technologist if you have:

- A pacemaker
- A metal plate, pin or other metallic implant
- Aneurysm clips
- An artificial heart valve
- An intrauterine device (IUD)
- Ever been a metal worker or gotten metal in your eyes (even if removed)
- Been wounded during military service

Ever Metallic items within the body may cause discomfort or injury to you when placed in the magnetic field and may exclude you from the exam. Also be sure to tell us if you are pregnant.

## Helping us get a Good Picture of You

To help your doctor make the best diagnosis and to avoid wasting your time, please do not wear:

- Metallic objects such as jewelry
- Hairspray
- Make-up
- A hearing aid
- Eyeglasses
- Any removable dental work

You may also want to avoid drinking coffee or other caffeinated beverages prior to scanning so you are able to lie quietly for several minutes at a time. Please alert MRI staff ahead of time if sedatives will be needed.