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Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

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What is Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

MRI uses a magnetic field and radio waves to cause body tissues in the area being scanned to send out tiny radio signals. Each type of tissue sends out a different signal. When the system converts these signals into a computerized image, the result is a clear, exceptionally detailed "picture" of the area of interest.

The MRI exam is particularly useful in examining the entire musculoskeletal system, internal organs in the abdomen and pelvis, and the brain and spinal cord. These detailed images allow radiologists to detect problems previously unseen with other diagnostic procedures. This can eliminate the need for a more invasive procedure or operation.

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What can I expect during the exam?

A registered MRI technologist will escort you into the magnet room and position you on the table of the scanner. Through our intercom system, you will be able to hear and talk to the technologist who will be monitoring the scan from the computer room. During the exam you will hear a knocking sound from the MRI system that ranges from barely audible to quite noticeable, which is perfectly normal.

Radiology Regional Center is committed to providing everyone the best MRI technology and service possible. People come in all shapes and sizes, and with two magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) systems to choose from, Radiology Regional Center makes MRI patient-friendly.

Our [Open Outlook System](#) and [High Field System](#) represent the most technologically advanced equipment available, ensuring every patient obtains state-of-the-art imaging. We are proud of our knowledgeable friendly staff, our registered technologists, and our board-certified, MRI fellowship trained radiologists

Most MRI procedures are completed within 20 to 60 minutes.

Open MRI >>

Our Open MRI systems are open on all four sides. That's a major advantage for people who find a tunnel too confining, for children who might become frightened inside a tunnel and for those with claustrophobia.



High Field MRI >>

Our Eclipse High Field System has the largest bore (opening) in the world. The new short design and large couch create greater patient comfort.



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How do I prepare for the exam?

You cannot be examined by MRI if you have any of the following:

- Pacemaker
- Aneurysm clips in the brain
- Inner ear implants
- Metal fragments in an eye
- Implanted spinal cord stimulator

A paramagnetic contrast agent (a special "dye" that enhances the image) may be used.

This is given intravenously before the exam to highlight certain body parts. If contrast is required for your exam, please tell your physician:

- If you are pregnant or think you might be
- If you are breast feeding
- If you have anemia or any diseases that affect red blood cells
- If you have asthma or other allergic respiratory disorders

Prior to your MRI examination you may eat and take your medications as you normally would.

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Where is the exam offered?

- **Open MRI**
 - [Goodlette Road, Naples](#)
- **High Field**
 - [College Parkway, Fort Myers](#)
 - [Del Prado Boulevard, Cape Coral](#)
 - [Cay West, Cape Coral](#)
 - [1110 Lee Boulevard, Lehigh Acres](#)
 - [Bonita Beach Road, Bonita Springs](#)
 - [Goodlette Road, Naples](#)

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Other questions

Are MR scans like [CT scans](#)?

No. A [CT scan](#) is a computerized x-ray. MR scans use a strong magnetic field and harmless radio waves, so you are not exposed to radiation.

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