

## What is a breast MRI?

An MRI of the breast is a test used along with mammograms and ultrasounds to find cancer or other conditions in the breasts.

## How should I prepare for my breast MRI?

There is no special preparation for an MRI.

- ❁ You can take your regular medicine on the day of the test.
- ❁ You will need to change into an exam gown.
- ❁ An IV will be placed in your arm for the injection of contrast material.
- ❁ Please leave jewelry and personal items at home.
- ❁ You may use a locker for your belongings.
- ❁ We will ask you to fill out a safety questionnaire and symptom form.



## What is the exam like?

The MRI machine is a long tunnel that is open at both ends.

1. First you will lie face down on a cushioned device with your breasts hanging through the openings.
2. Second, the technologist will connect the IV placed in your arm to a machine that injects contrast dye for the MRI.
3. Third, the scanner bed will move into the tunnel and the technologist and assistants will leave the room. It is important to hold still while the machine is taking pictures. MRI tests are not painful. You will stay in the tunnel during the entire test.
4. While the MRI machine is taking the images, you will hear thumping sounds. These are normal sounds, so please don't worry. The entire test should take close to 45 minutes.
5. After your MRI, you may go back to your usual activities.

## How do I get my results?

The MRI radiologist interprets the results and sends the detailed report to the doctor that ordered the test. It usually takes 48 hrs.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please call 688-5188.