3T MRI

What is an MRI?

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is a method of looking inside the body using magnetism and radio waves to produce remarkably clear pictures of your head, spine, or other parts of your body. An MRI scanner consists of a strong magnet with a radio transmitter and receiver. MRI produces soft-tissue images and is used to distinguish normal, healthy soft tissue from pathologic tissue.

How do I prepare for an MRI?

No special preparation is needed prior to the exam, unless your doctor has given you other instructions. You will be asked to complete a safety screening form and answer questions pertaining to your medical history. You will be provided scrubs to wear for the exam.

We will contact you prior to your appointment to confirm your scheduled time and to let you know your estimated financial responsibility.

Because MRI uses a strong magnet, please inform us prior to your appointment if you have any implanted device such as a pacemaker, heart stent(s), aneurysm clip(s), electronic implant, neurostimulation system, implanted drug infusion device, implanted cardioverter defibrillator, cochlear implant or any other implant or metallic foreign body that might be of concern.

What happens during an MRI?

The technologist will position you on a special table that will slide into the scanner. You will be given headphones to listen to music and communicate with the technologist during the scan.

During the scan, you will be asked to hold very still and relax so we can obtain clear pictures. In some cases, you will be asked to hold your breath. While the machine is taking your pictures, you will hear rapidly repeating, thumping noises coming from the walls of the scanner.

Most exams take 20 to 30 minutes (45 to 60 when contrast is used).



Your Appointment

Date **Time**

How do I find out the results?

The radiologist will study your examination and will give the report to your doctor. Then your doctor will discuss the results with you and explain what they mean in relation to your health. Results cannot be given directly to the patient or family.

Visit <u>patient.3TForMe.com</u> to fill out your paperwork ahead of time and to get complete answers to more questions you might have.

About Big Sky Diagnostic Imaging

Big Sky Diagnostic Imaging of Billings is a patient-focused outpatient imaging center. Big Sky has an ACR accredited 3 Tesla (3T) MRI system and an ACR accredited CT scanner. It is important to have a 3T MRI scan because of the small structures in the body that can be imaged in greater detail.

Big Sky Diagnostic Imaging of Billings

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