

Open MRI @ Salem Clinic

In an open MRI machine, the patient passes through a space that is open on two to three sides. This is different than how the patient will pass into a donut-shaped hole in a closed MRI machine. The wide-open design of an open MRI machine allows patients a higher level of comfort, a reduced potential of claustrophobia and anxiety, and less concern for the patient's size.

What is MRI?

MRI (Magnet Resonance Imaging) is a detailed diagnostic tool used to help physicians evaluate different types of tissue, as well as distinguishing normal, healthy tissue from diseased tissue

Are there any harmful side effects from MRI?

MRI does not use ionizing radiation to obtain images. MRI uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves. It is critical to inform the scheduler AND the technologist of any metal in or on your body that cannot be easily removed. Also inform the scheduler and the technologist if there is any chance of pregnancy.

What happens during an MRI exam?

You will be positioned on the MRI table, typically lying on your back (this depends on the specific body part being scanned). Coils (special devices that act as antennas) will be placed on or around the area being imaged. It is important to remain motionless during the exam in order to get the highest quality images. During the scan, you will hear a knocking sound during the exam. We will provide you with earplugs or a headset, (depending on the specific exam) for your hearing protection.

Is there anything that would prevent me from having an MRI exam?

Because MRI uses a strong magnetic field, some implantable devices may prevent you from having an MRI. Your health and safety are very important to us, so we ask safety questions at least twice before your exam. Firstly, on the phone with a scheduler and then again at the time of your exam with a licensed and highly trained technologist. Please let your physician & technologist know if you have any implants or if you may be pregnant.

Is there any preparation for an MRI exam?

- You may eat, drink and take your medication as usual unless you are advised differently by our Radiology staff.
- Please remove all jewelry and piercings before the appointment.
- You will be required to change into a gown, which will be provided for you.

Your appointment is at

1165 Union St NE, Salem, OR 97303

Date: _____

Time: _____ **AM/PM**

If you have any questions, you may call the imaging department directly at (503)399-2424.