

# Procedure Information: Abdomen MRI

## What is an abdomen MRI?

An abdomen MRI is a medical exam that helps physicians diagnose and treat medical conditions of the liver, kidneys, spleen, pancreas, and adrenal glands.

## When is an abdomen MRI ordered?

- Tumors
- Diseases of the liver, such as cirrhosis
- Cysts
- Malformations or abnormalities
- Inflammation, such as pancreatitis or appendicitis

## Patient preparation

No preparation is needed

Wear comfortable loose-fitting clothing with no metal snaps, zippers or other metal material. Blood work may be required prior to study based on medical history.

## What happens during an abdomen MRI?

A MRI technologist will verify your identity and obtain medical history for the radiologist. You will be asked to lay flat on a moveable padded examination table. The MRI technologist will make sure you are as comfortable as possible because you need to hold still throughout the length of your scan. Contrast material (MRI dye) is required for this exam. The technologist will insert an intravenous (IV) catheter into a vein in your arm or hand. MRI images of the abdomen are taken, then the contrast material will be injected, then more images will be taken after the injection. The IV line will be removed soon after the exam is completed. The MRI machine is loud, so for your comfort our MRI offers a patient stereo system that allows you to listen to a CD or radio station during your study. You are welcome to bring a CD of your own.

## Length of Procedure

The MRI scan will generally take 30—45 minutes.