

## What is MRI?

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is one of the most powerful non-invasive techniques in diagnostic medicine. Using a magnetic field, radio impulse and computer technology, MRI provides detailed three-dimensional images of body tissue and anatomy.

MRI is the diagnostic method of choice because of its ability to reveal injury or damage to soft tissue and bony structures. MRI is particularly useful in diagnosing brain, neurological, spine, disc and nerve abnormalities as well as joint and muscle problems which may not be detectable by other diagnostic methods. Furthermore MRI is safer than x-ray or CT scans because there is no exposure by the patient to radiation.

## What will my exam be like?

The MRI scan is painless and non-invasive. Each scan typically takes approximately 30 minutes. During the scan you will be comfortably positioned, hear a rhythmic sound from the scanner and you will be asked to hold still so that the images will be clear.

In some circumstances contrast dye may be introduced intravenously to define an unclear image or to highlight a particular area.

There is no special preparation required & you may eat and drink normally prior to the scan.

## Can anyone be examined?

Certain objects are incompatible with the radio frequency waves and magnetic fields used in the scan. Metal or magnetized objects such as keys, pens, zippers or bank /credit cards must not be brought into the examination room.

Certain medical conditions may make it impossible for you to be scanned. For example, if you have a pacemaker you should not be imaged because the pacemaker will not function properly in the magnetic field. Also, if you have metal filings, shrapnel or ferromagnetic clips or pins in your body you probably cannot be imaged. Most new surgical metal implants are made of high-quality stainless steel, which is non-magnetic and which would allow you to be scanned, provided they are not in the area being imaged. Dental fillings and bridgework are typically permitted, but some bridgework may prevent the radio frequency waves from getting into the body if the head is imaged.

The MRI personnel will question you thoroughly prior to your examination to determine if you can be imaged safely.

## How do I schedule my exam?

To schedule an examination you must provide CMI with an MRI PATIENT REQUISITION FORM signed and completed by your physician. This form is to be sent to CMI by fax at (604) 733-4424.

Upon receipt by CMI of the MRI PATIENT REQUISITION FORM a CMI representative will contact you to schedule your appointment.

## Clinic Location

Your examination will be held at Canadian Magnetic Imaging located at Suite 18 – 3195 Granville Street (at the corner of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Granville Street, on the ground floor of the Hycroft Medical Centre) in Vancouver, British Columbia. Pay parking is available in the underground of the building.



## Contact Us

Should you have any questions about your MRI examination, please contact CMI at:

Tel. (604) 733-5563

Fax. (604) 733-4424

Toll-free: 1-877-268-8530

Email: [info@canmagnetic.com](mailto:info@canmagnetic.com)