

## MRI At Penn Highlands

- Patients should arrive 20-30 minutes before your scheduled appointment time.
- Patients should park in the front parking lot or outpatient parking lot.
- Patients should enter through the main entrance and report to Registration.
- Remember to bring your Order, insurance cards, photo ID and any requested films with you on scan day.

### Your MRI Scan is scheduled for:

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Time:** \_\_\_\_\_



### PENN HIGHLANDS BROOKVILLE

Appointments available  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday  
814-849-1880

### PENN HIGHLANDS CLEARFIELD

Appointments available  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday  
814-768-2276

### PENN HIGHLANDS DUBOIS

Appointments available  
Monday - Friday  
814-375-4636

### PENN HIGHLANDS ELK

Appointments available  
Monday - Friday  
814-788-8844

### MOSHANNON VALLEY COMMUNITY MEDICAL BUILDING

Appointments available  
Thursdays  
814-768-2276

[www.phhealthcare.org](http://www.phhealthcare.org)

# MRI MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING

## PATIENT GUIDE

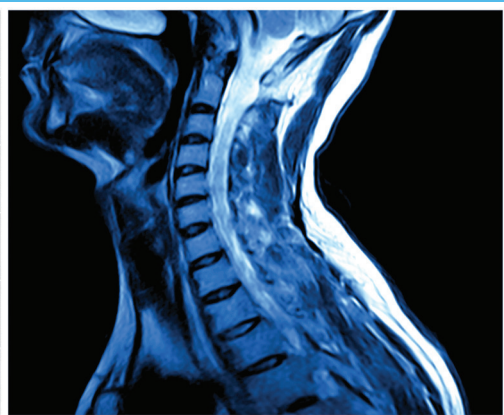


# WHAT IS MRI?

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), is a special type of diagnostic procedure. It is a non-invasive, painless procedure that looks at tissues not seen with other diagnostic tests.

During an MRI exam, rather than using x-rays, a magnetic field and radio waves are used to create an image of a specific part of your body. This image of your head, chest, abdomen, pelvis, spine, arms and legs is then captured digitally. The length of your MRI scan will vary depending upon the area of your body that is being scanned.

MRI scanning produces cross sectional multidimensional views of your body. These images are produced by sophisticated computers without any of the potential risks of using x-rays. This high-tech information is then used by your physician in the detection and diagnosis of many types of disorders.



## Pre-Test Instructions

You will be contacted 1-2 days prior to your procedure for further instruction. This test will take approximately 1 hour to complete.

1. You may eat and drink normally prior to your exam (*unless otherwise directed by your physician/ MRI staff*).
2. All medications may be taken on your usual schedule unless instructed otherwise by your physician.
3. Please wear comfortable clothing. Avoid under-wire bras, girdles, metal snaps, zippers, belt buckles or pins. For this reason, please be prepared to change into a patient gown prior to your exam.
4. Metal objects are generally incompatible with the radio frequency and magnetic fields used in MRI imaging. All jewelry, watches, coins, keys, cell phones and credit cards should be left at home or if necessary can be placed in a locker before entering the scanner.
5. Almost anyone can have an MRI exam, however, it may not be appropriate for everyone. The hospital staff and MRI technologist will ask you general questions concerning prior surgeries, work background and current symptoms. If you have any metal objects inside your body such as a cardiac pacemaker, cerebral aneurysm clips, cochlear implants, joint or bone clips, metal prosthetic devices, metal fragments in your eye, or body piercing, you will need to inform the technologist prior to the exam.
6. If you cannot keep your appointment, you must give at least 24 hours notice of your cancellation.

## What To Expect On Scan Day

- The MRI staff will greet you and discuss the exam, medical history and answer any questions.
- You will fill out a MRI Screening Form.
- A gadolinium based contrast may be injected during the exam into a vein if necessary.
- You will be positioned for the exam by lying flat on the imaging table. A coil will be placed around the anatomy being imaged. The scanner will make very loud noises; you will be given ear plugs that you must wear. The table will move slightly in and out during the exam. You will be asked to hold very still during the exam.
- The exam will last for approximately 1 hour.
- The scanner will pick up information from the body, which will be reassembled through a computer to create images of the anatomy.
- After the scan is complete, the MRI staff briefly reviews the images before you are discharged.

