

# UNIVERSITY IMAGING

at Science Park

## GETTING READY FOR YOUR FUNCTIONAL MRI EXAM

You've been scheduled to undergo testing at our **3Tesla MR Imaging Center**.

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

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

Please follow these special instructions:

- Please arrive on time for your appointed time and bring your insurance card with you.
- Wear comfortable shoes and clothing (no jewelry or metal).
- Please leave all valuables at home.

### AT THE 3T MRI CENTER

We regard your comfort and convenience as highly as the quality of service we provide. Our staff will greet you when you arrive and provide you with the personal attention to make your stay comfortable and pleasant.

Upon greeting you and reviewing your medical history, you'll be taken to a patient room where you will be asked some questions to make sure you are safe to undergo an MRI scan. You will be required to complete a detailed information sheet. It is important that you disclose if you have any metal fragments or metal wires implanted in your body. Then you will be asked to change in a hospital gown/scrubs, and to remove any jewelry or other metallic accessories. One of our staff will come in to explain and help you practice the tests you will be performing during your exam.

You may leave shortly after the scan is complete, unless your physician requires post-scanning testing. Results will be sent to your ordering physician. The entire process—from arrival to discharge—takes approximately two hours.

## FUNCTIONAL MR IMAGING OF THE BRAIN

### Information for patients

#### WHAT IS A MRI?

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is an imaging technique that employs a noninvasive strong magnetic field and radiowaves to create images.

#### WHAT IS A FUNCTIONAL MRI (fMRI)?

Functional MRI (fMRI) is a noninvasive tool for measuring human brain function. A functional MR examination is very similar to an ordinary MR examination, with the addition that you will perform certain tests/tasks while we take pictures of your brain.

#### HOW IS THE PROCEDURE PERFORMED?

You will lie on a sliding table, with your head placed in a coil that looks like a bird cage. Padding will be used to keep you still during the procedure. On top of the coil cage, there will be a large hood, which contains a mirror and a screen allowing you to see instructions, words and images. There will also be a set of headphones allowing you to hear instructions as well as a response button pad which will allow you to respond to certain tasks.

You will be moved so that your head is inside the MRI machine, which is a tunnel-like device. The technologist then leaves the room and the MRI sequences are performed.

During the exam you will be asked to perform a number of simple tasks, such as tapping fingers, looking at pictures, looking at words, hearing sounds or answering simple questions and performing simple language tasks.

You will be asked not to move during the exam to avoid blurring the pictures. In between sequences some movement is allowed. You will be required to remain still for only a few minutes at a time. You will be able to communicate with the radiologist or technologist throughout the exam.

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## WHAT WILL I FEEL DURING THE fMRI EXAM?

fMRI causes no pain, but you may feel uneasy from being closed-in or from the need to remain still. You may notice a warm feeling; this is normal, but if it bothers you, tell the MRI technologist. For many patients, the loud tapping or knocking noises heard at certain phases of the exam are annoying. Earplugs will be provided.

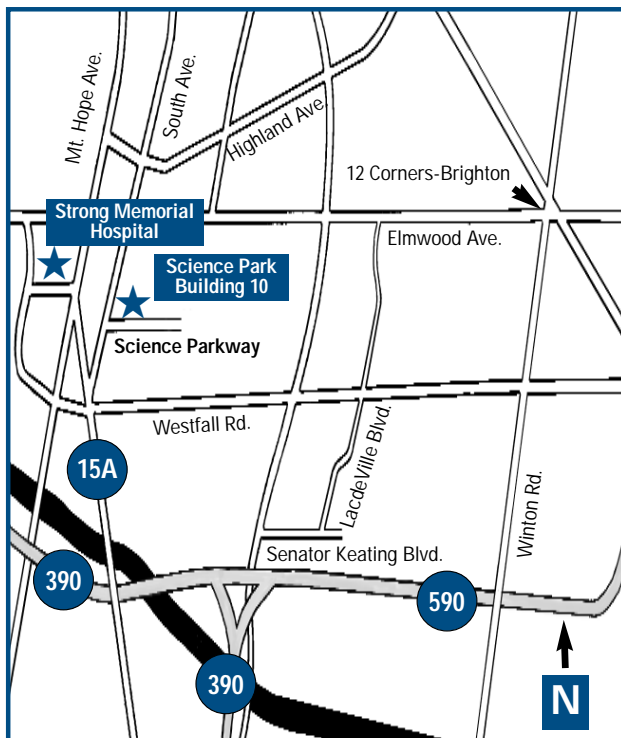
## HOW LONG DOES AN FMRI STUDY TAKE?

Upon your arrival, you will spend approximately 30-45 minutes to fill out all the questionnaires, review them with our staff, and practice the tests you will be

performing. Then, depending on how many images are needed, the exam itself will generally take from 45 to 60 minutes, although a very detailed study may take longer. You may leave shortly after the scan is complete, unless your physician requires post-scanning testing. The entire process-from arrival to discharge-takes approximately two hours.

## WHEN DO I FIND OUT THE RESULTS?

The functional MR images are reviewed and interpreted by a radiologist. A report will be dictated, typed, and sent to the physician that referred you for the study. He/she will contact you to discuss the findings and what to do next.



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**PET/CT, Diagnostic CT, and 3 Tesla MR**

110 Science Park  
Rochester, NY 14620

Appointment Line:

(585) 785-5000 FAX: (585) 756-2474

## HOW TO FIND US

*From the South and Thruway (Exit 46):*

- Merge onto I-390 N  
Take Exit 16 (Rt 15-A)  
Turn Right onto 15-A (E. Henrietta Rd.)  
Continue past intersection at Westfall Rd.  
Take slight right onto South Ave.  
Turn Right at Science Park  
Turn Left at building 110

*From the East and Northeast:*

- Take I-490 W  
Merge onto I-590 S  
Continue Straight onto I-390 N  
Take Exit 16 (Rt 15-A)  
Turn Right onto 15-A (E. Henrietta Rd.)  
Continue past intersection at Westfall Rd.  
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