This pamphlet’s purpose is to provide basic information to help you understand your MR imaging procedure.

The physicians and physician assistants in the Division of Diagnostic and Interventional Neuroradiology at the University of Rochester Medical Center / Strong Memorial Hospital will answer any questions you may have before they perform your procedure.

If you do have any questions or concerns, please ask during your pre-procedure interview or call us ahead of time at 585-275-5351.

Radiologists:

+ P-L Westesson, MD, PhD, DDS
+ Sven Ekholm, MD, PhD
+ Henry Wang, MD, PhD
+ Jeevak Almast, MD
+ Ali H. Hussain, MBCh, FRCR
+ Rajiv Mangla, MBBS

Physician Assistants:

+ Stephen D’Ambrosio, MPAS, RPAC
+ Iris Young, RPA-C

Directions to Strong Memorial Hospital

From the East:
NYS Thruway (I-90) to Exit 46; I-390 North to Exit 16 (W. Henrietta Rd); right on W. Henrietta Rd (Rte 15); proceed approximately two miles to Elmwood Avenue; make a left on to Elmwood Ave; the hospital will be on your left hand side; parking garage will be on the left.

From the West:
NYS Thruway (I-90) to Exit 47; I-490 East to I-390 South to Exit 16A (E. River Rd.); right on East River Rd. and right on Kendrick Rd; bear left onto Lattimore Rd; one block to Crittenden Rd.; take right on Crittenden, parking garage will be on the left.

From the South:
I-390 North to Exit 16 (W. Henrietta Rd.); right on W. Henrietta Rd (Rte. 15); proceed two miles and make a left on Elmwood Avenue; parking garage will be on the left.

From Parking Garage to the Patient Information Desk (Main Lobby) to the Imaging Sciences Department (Ground Floor)

Take the garage elevators to the 1st floor. Follow the signs to the main lobby. Go through the main lobby passing the information desk. Follow the Red (R) ceiling tags to the red elevators. Take the red elevators to the ground floor. Exiting towards the red corridor turn right and follow the black ceiling tiles marked (x) to the Imaging Sciences/Radiology reception area (G-3300).
Q. What is a MRI?
A. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is an imaging technique that employs a noninvasive strong magnetic field and radio waves to create images.

Q. What happens prior to the MRI study?
A. 1. You will be required to complete a detailed information sheet ensuring your safety.
2. The technologist will inform you regarding what will happen during your procedure.
3. It is important that you disclose if you have any metal fragments or metal wires implanted in your body. Inform the technologist if you have a pacemaker, cerebral aneurysm clip, metal implants, implanted electronic devices, neural stimulators, or if you could be pregnant.

Q. Do you use contrast material?
A. In certain cases the radiologist orders contrast material to be used to improve the image quality. Contrast material is a fluid that is injected into a vein, usually in your arm. It is not the same contrast as used in radiology or CT examinations.

Q. What if I have a contrast allergy?
A. ANY contrast allergy, even if not severe, MUST be pretreated with prescription medicine. The physician ordering the MRI study will prescribe this for you.

Q. What personnel can you expect to meet?
A. You will meet a receptionist in the reception area who handles any paperwork related to your study. Nurses and technologists will assist you during the study. A radiologist will review the images and dictate a formal report that will be sent to your doctor.

Q. How long does a MRI scan take?
A. An MRI study takes between 1 and 2 hours. You can follow your normal routine, eat normally, and take your medications. There are however limitations in eating for children who undergo sedation or anesthesia. During the study you will have to remove some personal items, such as your watch, wallet, and car keys. They will be securely stored in the MR department during your study.

Q. What happens during the MR study?
A. During the MR study you will be laying in the MR scanner, which is a tunnel-like device. You should lay as still as possible to avoid motion artifacts on the images. The length of your stay in the magnet is approximately 45 minutes per body part examined, but this amount of time depends on your unique history.

Q. When do I find out the results?
A. The 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.