

UCHSC Brain Imaging Center Screening Policy for Subjects Undergoing 3T MRI Procedure

It is the policy of the Brain Imaging Center to not scan any subjects that are pregnant, that have shrapnel in their body, or that have any metal inside their skull. Dental implants are allowed, except for ones held in by magnets. If the subject has had metal shaving in their eyes that had to be removed by a physician, they will not be scanned unless an x-ray of their orbits have determined all the metal has been removed. Radiographic capabilities are not available at the imaging center; therefore obtaining x-rays will not be the responsibility of the Brain Imaging Center.

Orthopedic implants have been determined to be safe. If the subject has had any surgery on their head, eyes, ears, chest, abdomen or pelvis, they need to be approved by the MR technologist prior to scheduling.

Each potential subject shall be screened by the Principle Investigator prior to setting up an appointment. A copy of the screening form should be sent to the Brain Imaging Center. Once the subject arrives, the MR technologist will verbally interview the subject and give them a chance to ask questions regarding the screening questioner or the MR procedure.

Subjects must remove all metal objects on their person. This may include changing into a gown.

Note: It is possible that in the future, special studies in higher risk individuals or groups (based on specific devices, implants, etc) may be approved but only after careful consideration and review by the investigators, the Colorado Multiple Institutional Review Board (COMRIB), and the Executive Committee of the 3T Center.

The screening form requests information regarding:

1. Prior surgery or operation to help determine if there may be an implant or device present that could create a problem for the subject.
2. An injury to the eye involving a metallic object, or any injury from a metallic object or foreign body (ex: shrapnel).
3. For female subjects, a question of possible pregnancy or late menstrual period is included. No pregnant patients will be scanned in any research study at this time.
4. A checklist of implants, devices, and objects to identify anything that could be hazardous to the subject undergoing the MR procedure or that may produce an artifact that could interfere with the interpretation of the MR procedure. In general, these items are arranged on the checklist in order of the relative safety hazard (e.g., aneurysm clip, cardiac pacemaker, implantable cardioverter defibrillator, electronic implant, etc.), followed by items that may simply produce imaging artifacts that could be problematic for the interpretation of the MR procedure. If the subject answers yes to any item listed in **bold** text, this subject will be ineligible for an MR in most circumstances.
5. Following completion of the Magnetic Resonance (MR) Procedure Screening Form, an MR-safety trained healthcare worker will review the form's content. Next, a verbal interview will be conducted by the MR-safety trained healthcare worker to verify the information on the form and to allow discussion of any question or concern that the subject may have before undergoing the MR procedure. This allows a mechanism for clarification or confirmation of the answers to the questions posed to the subject so that there is no miscommunication regarding important MR safety issues. In addition, because the subject may not be fully aware of the medical terminology used for a particular implant or device, it is imperative that this particular information on the form be discussed during the verbal interview.

Revised 10/03