

What is an MRI test?

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) uses a large magnet and a computer to produce detailed pictures of organs and structures inside the body. An MRI might show details that do not appear on x-ray, ultrasound or a Computed Tomography (CT) scan. MRI scans help physicians make accurate diagnoses and select appropriate treatments. MRI tests are computer generated and read by University of Colorado Radiologists.

MRI Images are used to detect, diagnose, and monitor problems in many different parts of the body. Your MRI test may have been recommended so that your prescribing physician can diagnose conditions in one of the following areas:

- Brain
- Breast
- Blood
- Body (chest, abdomen and pelvis)
- Bones and joints (in addition to imaging, musculoskeletal (MSK) radiologist perform interventional procedures such as therapeutic and diagnostic joint, spin, and tendon injections)
- Head
- Spine

How long will the MRI test take?

Please allow 1 hour for you MRI test to be completed. Please show up 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment time.

What happens when the MRI test is finished?

You are free to leave the hospital and continue your daily activities after your MRI test. There are no follow up instructions unless otherwise instructed by your referring physician.

How will I learn the results?

The results of your MRI test will be made available to your referring physician 24-48 hours after your imaging test is complete. Please contact the physician that referred your for the test if you have any questions about the results of your examination.

Patient Radiation and Safety Information

The University of Colorado Radiology Department makes imaging safety our number one priority. We take every precaution necessary to make sure that you are safe during your imaging test or procedure. MRIs are a “low risk” imaging test. There is no “radiation” exposure to the patient during this examination. MRI equipment can create a strong magnetic field so your MRI technologist will perform a comprehensive search for any metallics (in clothing, or implants) that you may be unaware of before your exam begins.

How do I prepare for my MRI test?

- Tell your healthcare provider about any food or medication allergies including latex
- Let your provider know if you have any of the following to ensure that precautionary measures are taken:
 - Brain aneurysm clip
 - Cardiac pacemaker, pacing wires, implanted cardiac defibrillator
 - Gastrointestinal clips
 - Artificial heart valves
 - Cochlear implants, or prostheses
 - IUD, diaphragm, pessary, or urinary catheters
 - Stents, filters, or coils
 - Any type of prosthesis (eye, penile)
 - Any implanted devices (bone growth, spinal cord stimulator, medication pump)
 - Medication Patches (these will need to be removed)
 - Artificial limbs or joints
 - Pin, screw, nail, wire, or plate in any joint
 - Surgical mesh or wire sutures
 - Breast tissue expander
 - Tattoos, body piercings, or permanent makeup
 - Dentures, partial plates, retainers or temporary spacers
 - Hearing aides (must be removed)
- Print out and bring a list of current medications and allergies including latex
- Complete any blood work that is requested by your referring physician
- Tell your care provider if you could be pregnant or if you are currently breastfeeding prior to coming to your MRI appointment.
- Please let your health care provider know if you have ever been injured by a bullet, BB, or shrapnel or have sustained an eye injury from a metal object or metal slivers.
- Please let your care provider know if you are claustrophobic so you can be prescribed medication prior to your MRI appointment. If you are ordered to take this type of medication during your MRI test, you will need someone to drive you home after the examination.
- Please let your care provider know if you have a history of asthma, respiratory disease, or allergic reactions including past reactions to contrast medium or dye used for MRI, CT, or X-ray examinations.

When should I arrive?

Please arrive 20 minutes before your imaging test begins to fill out the necessary hospital-required paperwork.

How to get to my appointment?

Directions

General Radiology at AOP –

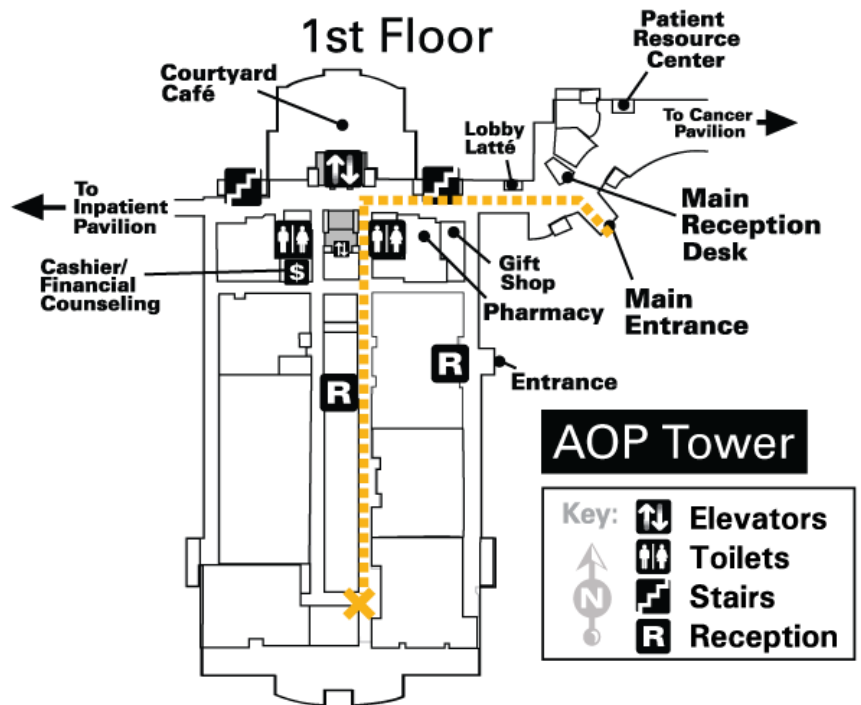
Directions to Anschutz Outpatient Pavilion (AOP) Radiology - General Radiology

Enter the main entrance of the Outpatient Pavilion (the east side of the hospital where the clinics are). You will see the main reception desk in front of you just inside the entrance doors. Turn left down the main corridor, and you will see signs posted for Radiology. We are located down the hallway across from the Courtyard Café.

**Anschutz Outpatient Pavilion
Department of Radiology
1635 Aurora Court
Aurora, CO 80045
Valet Patient parking is available.**

Contact Information

- MRI scheduling/AOP: (720) 848-1160



UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO HOSPITAL
MRI Patient Safety Screening Form

Patient Name (print) _____ **Date:** _____
Sex: M F Weight (lbs) _____ Height _____ Body part to be examined: _____

Are you allergic to Latex? Yes No Please list any other Allergies: _____

Do you have a history of asthma, allergic reaction, respiratory disease, or reaction to a contrast medium
or dye used for an MRI, CT, or X-ray examination? Yes No
Do you have diabetes or renal disease? (Please circle) Yes No
Do you have high blood pressure or take high blood pressure medication? Yes No
Are you pregnant, suspect you may be pregnant, or experiencing a late menstrual period? Yes No
Are you currently breast feeding? Yes No
Do you have a history of Cancer? Yes No

Have you ever had a surgical operation/procedure of any kind? Yes No
If yes, please list: _____

Have you ever had eye surgery? Yes No
Have you had an injury from a metal object in your eye (metal slivers)? Yes No
If yes, did you seek medical attention? Yes No
Have you ever been injured by a bullet, BB, or shrapnel? Yes No
If yes, has it been removed? Yes No

The following items can interfere with MR imaging and some can actually be *hazardous* to your safety. Please check (yes/no) if you have any of these items:

- Yes No
- ___ ___ Brain Aneurysm clip (on blood vessel)
 - ___ ___ Cardiac Pacemaker, pacing wires, or Implanted Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD)
 - ___ ___ Any other Internal Wires or Electrodes
 - ___ ___ Clips placed within the gastrointestinal tract (resolution clip, Olympus, etc)
 - ___ ___ Artificial heart valve; list type _____
 - ___ ___ Any ear implant or prostheses including Cochlear Implant; list type _____
 - ___ ___ IUD, diaphragm, pessary, or urinary catheters; if yes, list type _____
 - ___ ___ Stents, filters or coil (cardiac stents, Greenfield filters, etc.); if yes, list type _____
 - ___ ___ Shunt (spinal or intraventricular); if yes, list type _____
 - ___ ___ Any type of prosthesis (eye, penile, etc.); if yes, list type _____
 - ___ ___ Any implanted devices (bone growth/spinal cord stimulator, or port); type: _____
 - ___ ___ Medication pumps, insulin pumps, medication patches (Nicotine, Nitroglycerine) (will need to remove)
 - ___ ___ Artificial limb or joint (including hip or knee replacements)
 - ___ ___ Pin, screw, nail, wire, or plate in any bone or joint
 - ___ ___ Surgical mesh or wire sutures
 - ___ ___ Breast Tissue Expander
 - ___ ___ Tattoo, Body piercing jewelry, or permanent makeup
 - ___ ___ Dentures; partial plates; retainer; temporary spacers (remove if possible)
 - ___ ___ Hearing aid (must remove)

Did you take or plan to take any sedating medication today? (the day of this exam) Yes No
If yes, what? _____ If yes, who will drive you home? _____

I attest that the above information is correct. I read and understand the contents of this form. I had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the questions and information on this form.

Patient Signature/Legal Guardian _____ Date/Time _____
Signature/Title of Person Filling out form: _____ Date/Time _____
Signature/Title of MRI Personnel: _____ Date/Time _____

Instructions for MRI patients

1. You will need to use headphones and/or earplugs that we supply
2. Remove all jewelry (earrings, necklaces, rings), hair pins, bobby pins, barrettes, hair ties body piercings.
3. Remove all dentures, false teeth, partial dental plates, retainers, eyeglasses, hearing aids
4. Remove watch, pager, cell phone, credit cards, wallet.
5. Remember, the MRI magnet is **ALWAYS ON**. Do not enter the MR system room until asked to by the technologist.