



"I was unable to have an MRI previously due to claustrophobia. But with the Wide Bore MRI's **more open space, increased air flow** and **brighter lighting**, I am now able to."

Wendy Bickham
Elmira

Up to 100% more clearance
from nose to magnet
than the traditional
Open MRI.



that enhances the quality of the image. The contrast agent is injected into a vein in your arm. The MRI images are reviewed by a radiologist to ensure they are of good quality, and if additional scans are necessary, they usually will be taken right away.

After the procedure?

If you have had a contrast administered, we recommend that you drink plenty of caffeine-free fluids after your MRI.

Where is the test performed?

Your MRI will be performed in the Imaging Services Department of Cayuga Medical Center at the location selected below.

Notes

NAME _____	
APPOINTMENT DATE _____	TIME _____



Imaging Services Locations:

- ☐ **Cayuga Medical Center**
101 Dates Drive
Ithaca, New York 14850
 - ☐ **Ithaca Convenient Care**
10 Arrowwood Drive
Ithaca, New York 14850
 - ☐ **Cortland Convenient Care**
1129 Commons Avenue
Cortland, New York 13045
- (607) 274-4376**



www.cayugamed.org

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MRI

MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING



A Member of  Centralus Health

Welcome to the Department of Imaging Services at Cayuga Medical Center

We are here to assist in the diagnosis of medical conditions and orthopedic injuries using various forms of radiography and imaging technology. We want to make you as comfortable as possible during your exam, while providing timely, thorough, and accurate diagnostic information to your doctor.

The information in this brochure will tell you about the imaging study for which you are scheduled. If you have additional questions, please feel free to call **(607) 274-4376** and ask for the diagnostic supervisor. This person will be able to help you.

About our Imaging Services



Cayuga Medical Center has a commitment to and reputation for staying abreast of changing technology and our imaging equipment is state-of-the-art.

Our range of services is comprehensive and we offer all imaging modalities found in major medical centers. Radiologists are on site at all three of our locations, which also distinguishes the level of service we provide.

Imaging Services is staffed by six board certified radiologists, many of whom are sub-specialists in areas such as neuroradiology, abdominal CT, and interventional procedures. Assisting them are experienced radiologic technologists and sonographers, many of whom have completed advanced training and are certified in specialty modalities.

MRI

(Magnetic Resonance Imaging)

What is the test?

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (*MRI*) is one of the most advanced, non-invasive techniques available for examining the human body. A valuable diagnostic tool, MRI creates detailed images of anatomic structures by using a strong magnetic field, radio waves, and computers.

Is it true that not everyone can have an MRI?

Because this test involves the use of a strong magnetic field, our staff has to confirm your safety, so be prepared to list all surgeries you have had in your life. While MRI is safe for most patients, a small percentage of people cannot have this examination, including women in their first trimester of pregnancy and patients with certain implants. Other implants, such as cardiac pacemakers, cardiac stents, vascular clips, aneurysm clips or heart valves, need to be verified for safety in the MRI environment by the technologist or radiologist.

Let the imaging staff know if you have eye or ear implants, permanent eyeliner, or if you have ever suffered an accident that left any tiny metal foreign body embedded in either of your eyes. If you have ever been shot or suffered shrapnel wounds, be sure to tell the staff.

Also, while an MRI is painless, some people do experience claustrophobia during a standard (*closed*) MRI. If you think this may be an issue for you, talk to your referring doctor ahead of time about your options: using a mild sedative (*which will require that you have someone drive you home*) may be an option. Cayuga Medical Center has the region's first Wide Bore system, designed for maximum patient comfort while delivering excellent images.

How do I prepare?

For most MRI exams there is no special preparation. You may eat and drink as normal, and you may take

medications as prescribed by your physician. You should arrive at your designated Imaging Services site 20 minutes before your scheduled appointment. Most MRI exams take at least 1 hour from start to finish, which includes completing the information forms prior to the actual exam. If you are having multiple examinations, plan to stay longer.

There is special preparation for an MRI exam of the abdominal area.

Nothing to eat or drink for a minimum of 6 hours before your appointment. Take your medications with the smallest amount of water possible, as fluid degrades the MRI images.

What can I expect during the procedure?

Prior to entering the MRI room for your exam, we will give you a safe place in which to leave behind those items that are not compatible with a magnetic field. This includes items such as, coins, hearing aids, jewelry, glasses, credit cards, keys, hair pins, and any other metal objects.

You will be asked to change into a gown. You will lie on a table that moves into a hollow cylinder surrounded by a large magnet. During the procedure you may hear a loud pounding sound (*for which ear plugs or head phones are provided*) while the equipment is in operation. There is no sensation of pain from the magnetic field or radio waves. The examination can last from 10 to 45 minutes, depending on the part of the body being imaged. You must remain still during the test, so if you are in pain, you may want to take something prior to having your MRI. You are in contact with the MRI technologist during the exam.

Depending on the clinical problem and the findings of the initial MRI, you may be given a contrast agent