

Fetal MRI

Fetal MRI uses a magnetic field to create high resolution images of your babies' body and organs. The MRI does not use radiation and is painless. Fetal MRI is performed in the 2nd or 3rd trimester of pregnancy.

The MRI usually takes about 30 to 45 minutes. Please report to patient registration at your scheduled arrival time.

Fetal MRI does not use radiation.

Why we do a Fetal MRI

The fetal MRI looks at your baby in a different way than an ultrasound. This provides pictures with greater detail and allows your doctor to gain additional information for a more complete diagnosis and treatment plan.



Shows detail of:

- Brain and spine
- Face and neck
- Chest and lungs
- Bowel
- Kidneys and bladder
- Placenta

Safe for you and your baby

We do MRI routinely in pregnant women and for patients of all ages. To date, there is no evidence that using clinical MR imaging during pregnancy is unsafe. *MRI in pregnancy is considered a standard of care by the American College of Radiology.*

Before the Fetal MRI

At the time of your appointment we will meet with you, explain the procedure and answer your questions. MRI patient screening will be completed and signed.

Because the MRI uses powerful magnets, you cannot wear any jewelry or have any items made of metal during the MRI. It may be easier to leave these items at home.

Studies show that babies move more after you eat. *This schedule will help keep your baby calm.*

My MRI Appointment Time: _____

3 hours before MRI: Time:	Stop eating solid foods. Only drink clear liquids.
2 hours before MRI: Time:	Stop drinking clear liquids. You may drink water.

During the Fetal MRI

Position in the MRI

We usually do a fetal MRI while you are lying on your back. If this is uncomfortable, we can adjust your position by placing a bolster under your knees. This helps take some of the pressure off your lower back.

Comfort during the scan

Your baby will move less when you are relaxed and comfortable. It's a little noisy, the scanner makes a rhythmic "thumping" sound when taking pictures.

There is a microphone in the MRI so you can talk to us in between pictures.

You can bring some of your favorite music to listen to during the scan. We also have music you can listen to or movies you can watch.

After the Fetal MRI

After the MRI is performed, all images are thoroughly reviewed by an attending Radiologist. This information is then reported to the Maternal-Fetal Specialist.

