

MRI Reference Chart: What to Order and When

Questions? Call and ask to speak with our Radiologists 775-323-5083

CLINICAL INDICATIONS	MR Arthrogram*	Without IV Contrast	With & Without IV Contrast	WHAT TO ORDER
GENERAL				
Osteomyelitis of any extremity, Spine or General Infection			1	MRI (indicate area of interest) with and without contrast
Soft Tissue Mass of Extremity or Body Wall			1	MRI (indicate area of interest) with and without contrast
SHOULDER/ELBOW/WRIST/HAND/FINGERS				
Evaluate for Cartilage Injury, Ligament Tear, Stress Fracture, Contusion, Synovitis, Ganglion Cyst, Occult Fracture, Pain of Shoulder, Elbow, Wrist, Hand or Fingers		1		MRI (indicate area of interest) Shoulder, Elbow, Wrist, Hand, or Fingers without contrast
Slap Lesion, Labral Tear, Shoulder Instability, TFCC Tear	✓ *			MR Arthrogram (Shoulder/Elbow/Wrist)
Rotator Cuff Tear, Shoulder Dislocation, Adhesive Capsulitis		1		MRI Shoulder without contrast
Bicep Tendon Tear (typically elbow)		1		MRI Elbow without contrast
HIP/KNEE/ANKLE/FOOT/TOES				
Meniscal or Cartilage Injury, Ligament Tear, Internal Derangement, Stress Fracture, Occult Fracture, Pain of Hip, Knee, Ankle, Foot or Toes		1		MRI (indicate area of interest) Hip, Knee, Ankle, Foot, Toes without contrast
Labral Tear, Impingement	✓ *			MR Arthrogram (Hip or Shoulder)
Achilles Tendon Tear, Injury		1		MRI Ankle without contrast - Achilles Tear
Forefoot Neuroma			1	MRI Forefoot with and without contrast - Neuroma
LONG BONES				
Soft Tissue Mass, Tumor			1	MRI (indicate area of interest) of Humerus, Ulna, Radius, Femur, Tibia, Fibula with and without contrast
Muscle Tear		1		MRI (indicate area of interest) of Humerus, Ulna, Radius, Femur, Tibia, Fibula with and without contrast
MRA EXAMS - EXTREMITIES, UPPER OR LOWER				
Arterial Obstruction or AVM, Stenosis			1	MRA (indicate area of interest)

*Requires intra-articular injection of contrast performed under fluoroscopy prior to MRI. Certain implants and devices require MRI clearance. Contact RDC at 775-323-5083 for details.

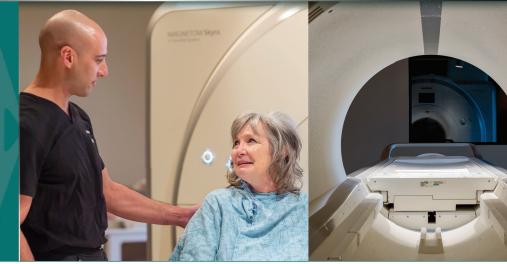
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BRAIN IMAGING			
Dementia, Memory Loss, Trauma, Hydrocephalus, Tremors	✓		MRI Brain without contrast
Migraines, Headaches	\checkmark		MRI Brain without contrast
Tumor, History of Cancer, Bell's Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis, Seizures, Strokes, Weakness, TIA, Trigeminal Neuralgia		\checkmark	MRI Brain with and without contrast
Acoustic Neuroma, Hearing Loss, Vertigo, Tinnitus		\checkmark	MRI IAC with and without contrast (often in addition to MRI Brain with and without)
Pituitary Adenoma, Tumor, Abnormal Prolactin, Galactorrhea, Amenorrhea, Abnormal Endocrine Labs		\checkmark	MRI Pituitary with and without contrast (often in addition to MRI Brain with and without)
History of Visual Disturbances, Proptosis, Optic Neuritis		\checkmark	MRI Orbits with and without contrast (often in addition to MRI Brain with and without)
SOFT TISSUE NECK			
Soft Tissue Neck Mass, Skull Base Mass		\checkmark	MRI Soft Tissue Neck with and without contrast
TEMPOROMANDIBULAR JOINTS			
TMJ Pain, Clicking, Locking	1		MRI TMJ without contrast
NEURO ANGIOGRAPHY			
Brain Intracranial Arteries - Stenosis, Aneurysm, TIA	1		MRA Brain without contrast
Brain Intracranial Veins - Thrombus, Stroke		1	MR Venogram without contrast
Neck Vessels, Aortic Arch to Skull Base			MRA Neck with and without contrast
BRACHIAL PLEXUS			
Brachial Plexus Neuropathy	\checkmark		MRI Brachial Plexus without contrast (can be performed with contrast if history or concern for malignancy)
SPINE, CERVICAL, THORACIC and LUMBAR			
Pain, Radiculopathy, Compression Fracture	1		MRI (Cervical/Thoracic/Lumbar) without contrast
Myelopathy, Multiple Sclerosis, Tumor, Infection, Syrinx, Previous Spine Surgery within last 5 years		1	MRI (Cervical/Thoracic/Lumbar) with and without contrast
BODY			
MUSCULOSKELETAL/CHEST			
AC Joint Pain, SC Joint Pain, Sternum, Pectoralis Tear, Scapula	✓		MRI Chest without contrast (indicate area of interest)
Chest Wall Mass or Pain		✓	MRI Chest with and without contrast
ABDOMEN			
Liver/Pancreas/Renal		✓	MRI Abdomen with and without contrast (indicate area of interest)
Bile Duct and Pancreatic Duct Evaluation, Suspected Stone or Obstruction	\checkmark		MRCP without contrast (usually done with MRI Abdomen with and without contrast)
RENAL ANGIOGRAPHY			
Renal Artery Stenosis, Hypertension		\checkmark	MRA Renal Angiography with and without contrast
PELVIS			
Sacral Fracture, Coccyx Fracture, SI Joint Pain, Muscle Strain	✓		MRI Pelvis MSK without contrast
Adductor Avulsion, Sports Hernia	1		MRI Pelvis without contrast - sports hernia
Muscular Mass, Pain or Abnormality		\checkmark	MRI Pelvis MSK with and without contrast
Gynecologic Abnormalities, Pain		\checkmark	MRI Pelvis GYN with and without contrast
Prostate Cancer, Elevated PSA		1	MRI Pelvis Prostate with and without contrast
BREAST			
Implant Rupture (does not rule out malignancy)	1		MRI Breast Implant Rupture without contrast
History of Breast Cancer, Abnormal Diagnostic Mammogram, Abnormal Diagnostic Ultrasound (recent diagnostic mammogram preferred)		1	MRI Breast with and without contrast

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