

MRI SCANS

Exam Reference / Protocol Guidelines

For more information on MRIs and other radiologic exams, please consult the American College of Radiology's ACR Appropriateness Criteria© document found at ACR.org



**INTERMOUNTAIN
MEDICAL IMAGING**

SCHEDULING (208) 954-8150 | FAX (208) 947-3322
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Body Part	Indication	Protocol	Exam Needed	Contrast	CPT Code	Additional Info Needed for Order
ABDOMEN	Abn labs, abn imaging, pain, N&V		MRI Abdomen: liver, renal, enterography, MRCP (biliary + pancreas)	Generally done w/o or w and w/o contrast	74183	MRI Abdomen w/MRCP: specific views for pancreas and duct. MRCP must be written on order as well; cpt 74183, 76376 (post processing). Enterography must be written on order.
ANKLE	Ankle pain		MRI Ankle (Rt or Lt)	Generally done w/o contrast	73721	
BRAIN	Headaches, dementia, syncope, mass, paresthesia, numbness		MRI Brain	Dependent on indication	70551 (w/o contrast); 70553 if ordered contrast prn	
BRAIN	Low-level testosterone, abnormal labs, tumor	Pituitary	MRI Pituitary	Generally ordered w and w/o contrast	70553	
BRAIN	Dizziness, tinnitus, hearing loss, schwannoma	Internal Auditory Canal (IAC)	MRI Brain IAC	Generally ordered w and w/o contrast	70553	
BRAIN	MS, possible CNS infection, possible tumor		MRI Brain	Generally ordered with and w/o contrast	70553	
BRAIN	TIA and stroke		MRI Brain	Generally ordered w/o contrast	70551	
ORDERING A BRAIN MRI AS PRN CONTRAST ALLOWS THE RADIOLOGIST TO EVALUATE AND SCAN, MAXIMIZING IMAGING APPROPRIATENESS AND MINIMIZING PATIENT EXPENSE						
BREAST	New diagnosis, high risk	Breast	MRI Breast	Always with and without contrast unless for silicone implant rupture	77059	
HEART	Cardiomyopathy, ARVD, Viability, Mass, Stress, Preablation Mapping	Cardiac	MRI Cardiac	w/w/o contrast	75561	
HIP	Hip and leg pain		MRI Hip (Rt or Lt)	Generally done w/o contrast	73721	
HIP	Labral tear	Arthrogram	MRI Hip Arthrogram (Rt or Lt)	Intra-articular contrast always given per Rad	73722	Arthrogram must be stated on order. It is an intraarticular contrast injection
KNEE	Knee pain, swelling		MRI Knee (Rt or Lt)	Generally done w/o contrast	73721	
NECK	Neck pain, upper extremity numbness, weakness, and tingling		MRI Cervical	Generally done w/o contrast unless f/up on MS or tumor	72141; 72156 if ordered w/contrast	
HEAD/NECK	Stenosis, TIA or stroke	MRA	MRA Intracranial and MRA Extracranial	Generally done w and w/o contrast	70549 and 70554	
SHOULDER	Shoulder pain, limited ROM		MRI Shoulder (Rt or Lt)	Generally done w/o contrast	73221	
SHOULDER	Labral tear, rotator cuff tear	Arthrogram	MRI Shoulder Arthrogram (Rt or Lt)	Contrast always given per Rad	73722	Arthrogram must be stated on order. It is an intraarticular contrast injection
SPINE	Mid back pain, lower extremity pain and numbness		MRI Thoracic	Generally done w/o contrast unless f/up on MS or tumor	72146; 72157 if ordered w/contrast	
SPINE	Low back pain, lower extremity pain and numbness, foot drop		MRI Lumbar	Generally done w/o contrast unless f/up on prior lumbar surgery within 10 years	72148; 72158 if ordered w/contrast	
WRIST	Tear, instability, pain		MRI Wrist	Generally done w/o contrast	73221	