

Angelo MRI Visit Reference Sheet

First things first:

- Have your physician refer you to Angelo MRI with a prescription.
- Either you or your physician's office will call to schedule your test.
- If you have claustrophobia, your physician may prescribe an oral medication for you to take with you to your MRI scan. Follow the instructions on the bottle.

To prepare for your MRI scan:

- Read the information on this website.
- Download patient forms, when posted, and complete them. Or, complete them when you arrive at Angelo MRI.

Before your leave your home:

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Early arrival at Angelo MRI:

- Please arrive at least 30 minutes prior to your scan and check in with the receptionist.

At Angelo MRI:

- From the time you arrive until the time you leave Angelo MRI, your privacy will be protected.
- Register and give completed patient forms to the receptionist.
- You will be asked to change into a gown. A locker will be supplied to secure your belongings.
- You will be asked to remove anything with metal, including but not limited to jewelry, hair ornaments, wigs, dentures, hearing aids, and underwire bras. Also, you will be asked to remove medical pumps, medicine patches, and pain stimulators. Please do not apply glitter body lotion the day of the scan.
- The Technologist will review your paperwork, verify your identification and requested exam, explain the process to you, and answer your questions.
- If Dotarem, a gadolinium-based contrast agent, is required it will be administered intravenously. Though considered one of the safest and most effective contrasts on the market, be aware of its possible side effects, <https://www.drugs.com/sfx/dotarem-side-effects.html>.

During the MRI scan:

- The duration of the procedure will vary but the average is 40 minutes to one hour per body part. Contrast scans may take slightly longer.
- You will be required to lie still during the actual MR scanning. Depending on the body part being examined, you may be instructed to hold your breath for up to 20 seconds.
- The MRI System is open on both ends. It is well lit and there is a fan for patient comfort. There is also a two-way intercom system for communication between patient and Technologist.
- During the actual imaging, you will hear an intermittent noise. You'll be provided with earplugs or head phones to minimize it. If you want to listen to music through the headphones, the Technologist will arrange that for you.
- You will be provided a button to alert the Technologist of any discomfort at any point during the scan.

After the MRI scan:

- If a contrast injection is used, the IV is removed immediately after the scan.
- Allergic reaction to the contrast agent is extremely rare. However, if you experience any unusual symptoms, you should notify the Technologist immediately. Call your doctor or go to the nearest hospital if you have already left the imaging facility.
- If sedation has been used, you will be sent home only when awake and alert. If you receive sedation, someone **must** drive you home.

Preparing children for an MRI scan:

MRI examinations require that the patient hold still for long periods of time. We invite our younger patients to watch this video to get ready for their MRI:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ox91I2L2a1g&feature=youtu.be>