



WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE YOUR MRI

Your physician has requested an MRI scan because he/she believes that the MRI will be useful to diagnose or to follow a medical condition you have or may have. In order to best image the specific condition for which you were referred for this MRI, it may be necessary to administer a MRI specific contrast agent (dye) intravenously during your exam. This contrast contains Gadolinium.

RISKS OF GADOLINIUM CONTRAST

Overall, MRI contrasts have an excellent safety profile for over 18 years and more than 200 million doses administered worldwide as described by the American College of Radiology. However, recent studies have described an association between certain gadolinium based MRI contrasts and a rare but serious medical condition called Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis (NSF). NSF was first described in 1997 and has only been observed as a side effect in patients with severe or chronic acute kidney disease. Although the disease is rare, there is no cure or treatment, so Syracuse Orthopedic Specialists will take every step to inform you of your risk of developing this serious medical condition.

LAB TESTS

The American College of Radiology and the Food and Drug Administration have determined that only those people with severe kidney disease or chronic acute kidney disease have been found to develop NSF. Particular populations of people are more prone to kidney disease. Due to your medical history or age, you fall into one of these groups and are required to have lab work done prior to your MRI to determine your level of kidney function. Based on your lab results and guided by ACR and FDA established guidelines, the Medical Imaging staff will determine if it is safe to perform your MRI exam with gadolinium based contrast.

LAB RESULTS

Your lab results will be reviewed by the Medical Imaging staff prior to your exam and will be discussed with you before your exam begins. If you would like to discuss your lab results in depth with your Primary Care Physician before your MR exam, please be sure to have your lab work completed well in advance of your MR exam date and ask the lab to forward your results not only to SOS, but immediately to your PCP. Have this discussion with your PCP in advance of your MR exam. Otherwise, SOS will plan to follow our conservative and cautious protocol and complete your exam as scheduled with your health as our primary concern.

For further questions about your MRI exam to be performed at SOS, please call the office location for your scheduled MR appointment.

SYRACUSE ORTHOPEDIC SPECIALISTS MRI LOCATIONS:

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5700 W. Genesee St Ste 7
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