

MRI Prostate

Welcome to VCU Health MRI. We are located in the Gateway Building Basement, Main Hospital 3rd Floor, ACC Basement and North Hospital Ground Floor. Our hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 7:00 am to 10:30 pm, and Saturday and Sunday 7:00 am to 7:30 pm. Advanced scheduling is required for all MRI exams. Please review the following information about your test. Please call (804) 628-3580 to schedule your test or if you have any questions about your MRI exam.

What is it?

Highly detailed imaging of the prostate.

Why are you having this test?

If you have risk factors for prostate cancer, MRI can help determine whether cancer is present in the prostate. If you have known cancer, MRI can assess the extent and evaluate treatment to confirm that it has been successful and/or rule out recurrence. MRI can also help characterize non-malignant prostate issues.

Preparing for the test

- Fleet enema 3 hours before the exam.
- A patient instruction packet will be mailed to you when you are scheduled for this exam. Please review all information in this instruction packet.
- Take your medications as prescribed.
- Bring a picture ID and insurance information.
- Bring information about any implants you may have inside your body.
- Please arrive 30 minutes before your scheduled appointment.

What to expect during the test

- An imaging device will be inserted into your rectum for the duration of the exam.

- If you are not comfortable with this, talk to your doctor about the possibility of doing the exam while under anesthesia.
- The test will take 40 minutes or more.
- You will receive intravenous gadolinium contrast.
- A needle (IV) will be placed in a vein.
- You will lie down inside of a tube on a flat table for the duration of the exam.
- It is very important to hold still for the exam, or the pictures will not be readable.
- Contrast will be administered during the exam through your IV.
- If you are claustrophobic, or have pain issues that may interfere with your ability to stay still, talk to your doctor BEFORE scheduling your MRI.

After Care information

- You may return to all your normal activities.
- MRI contrast is expelled from the body through your urine. If you receive MRI contrast, drinking extra fluids may help the contrast leave your body faster.

Follow-up care after the procedure

- Results will be available in 1-2 business days.
- For Results: Please contact the physician that ordered your test.

For More Information:

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your procedure, please call the VCU Health Department of Radiology at (804) 628-3580.