

MRI Examination with Gadolinium Contrast

Your physician has ordered a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) study using a contrast agent, gadolinium. This agent acts by enhancing the contrast between normal and abnormal tissues and also improves the visibility of blood vessels for angiography. The contrast agent will be injected through a small intravenous needle. A series of MR scans will be performed before and after the injection.

This contrast agent has been used millions of times throughout the world with very few side effects.

RISKS of the injection include:

Metallic taste in the mouth, mild headache, and nausea occur occasionally (less than 1 in 100 patients)

Allergic reaction to the contrast agent which may be severe but is very rare (estimated at less than 1 in 350,000).

Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis/Dermopathy (NSF/NSD) is a very rare condition of the skin and organs which has recently been described in some patients with severe kidney failure who have received gadolinium agents. The disease can cause permanent disability and death.

ALTERNATIVES: Sometimes a CT scan with iodine contrast may be used instead.

For your safety, it is very important that you inform the technologist if any of the following apply:

- You are pregnant or breast feeding.
- You have had a previous reaction to gadolinium.
- You are on kidney dialysis.
- You have any kind of kidney failure or kidney disease.

I have read the above statement and wish to proceed at this time.

Patient/Legal Representative Signature: _____ Date: _____

Witness Signature : _____

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