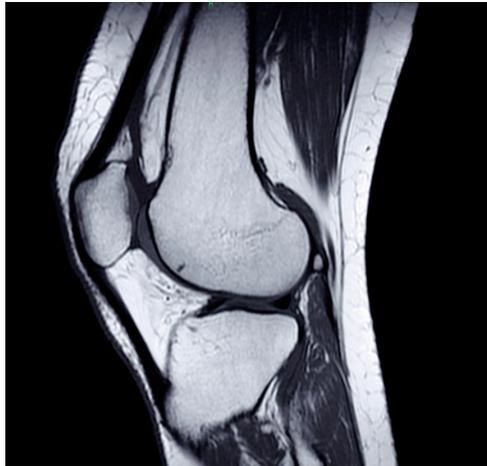


What is MR Imaging?

- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is a noninvasive medical test that helps physicians diagnose and treat medical conditions.
- MRI uses a powerful magnetic field, radio frequency pulses, and a computer to produce detailed images. MRI does not use ionizing radiation (x-rays).
- Orthopedic MR images allow physicians to thoroughly evaluate soft tissue structures of the body (muscles, tendons, ligaments, and bones).



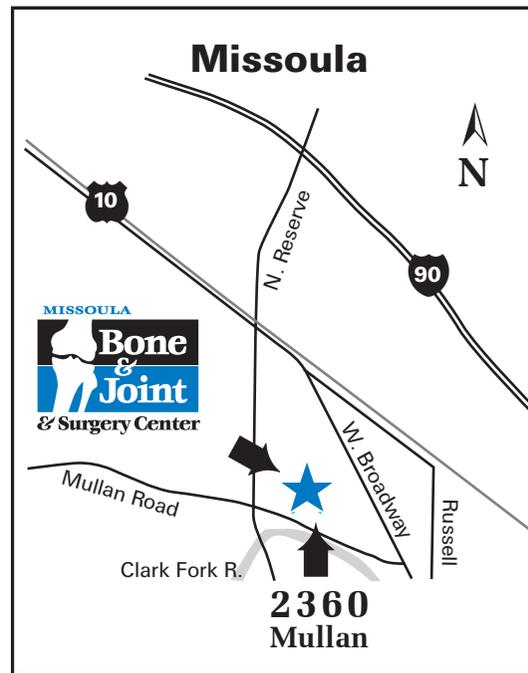
MRI cross section of the knee

Please call the
MRI Department with any
questions prior to your arrival.

(406) 829-5567



Missoula Bone & Joint is accredited
by The Intersocietal Commission
for the Accreditation of
Magnetic Resonance



2360 Mullan Road
Suite C (Clinic)

Suite B (Surgery Center)
Suite D (Physical Therapy)
Missoula, Montana 59808

Clinic (406) 721-4436
MRI Department (406) 829-5567
1-866-721-4436
Fax (406) 721-6053

www.missoulaboneandjoint.com



MISSOULA



MR Imaging
(Magnetic Resonance)



Appointments are made
following an assessment
with your MJB provider

(406) 829-5567

(MRI Department)

MR Imaging Hours

Monday-Thursday	7:00am-7:30pm
Friday	7:00am-5:00pm
Saturday	9:00am-2:00pm

You need an MRI, What's Next ...

Step 1.

When you and your provider have decided that the next step is to have a MRI scan your request is sent to the MRI department.

Step 2.

Missoula Bone & Joint will pre-authorize your MRI with your insurance carrier. This may take up to 14 business days.

Step 3.

Upon authorization you will be contacted by the MRI Department to schedule your scan.

A **metal screening** form will be reviewed with you over the phone to ensure you are safe to enter the MRI machine (large magnetic field).

The accuracy of this information is very important.

Most **surgically implanted metal objects** are approved to be scanned but they do need to be documented and screened prior to the scan for your safety.

When scheduling your scan, please notify us if you are, or might be **claustrophobic** (a prescription sedative may be called into your pharmacy for you to pick up.)

Step 4.

You are scanned in a GE Optima MR360.

The Day of Your MRI

Please plan on being at Missoula Bone & Joint for **two (2) hours**, from the time you check in until the time you leave the building.

At the time of scheduling, the MRI Assistant will verify your check-in time. During this time the MRI Assistant will prepare you for the scan; having you change into MRI safe clothing, removing all external metal, and answer some additional questions for the reading Radiologist.

During Your MRI Scan

- While the MRI procedure itself causes no pain, you will need to remain very still for about 40 minutes of scanning. If your provider orders a scan with contrast, scanning time will be longer.
- If your scan requires a **contrast agent**, an IV will be started in your hand or arm. After the contrast injection, please immediately notify your MRI technologist if you are experiencing any abnormal symptoms; hives, swelling, tingling in mouth, trouble breathing, etc. The technologist will be in constant communication with you during the scan.
- If you are having a **MRI Arthrogram** a MBJ Physician will inject the contrast agent into your joint space using an ultrasound machine to guide the placement of the needle. This will happen just prior to your scan.
- You will be provided with hearing protection.
- For some MRI exams you are able to bring your own music (cd, i-pod, phone etc.) or choose from our selection.

After Your MRI

- Your MRI results are read and diagnosed by both a Radiologist with Missoula Radiology and your MBJ Provider. You will be scheduled a follow up appointment with your MBJ Provider to go over your MRI results, OR your MBJ Provider will call you with the results during their next clinic day.
- If you took a sedative (Valium, Adavan, Lorazepam or Diazepam) you should not operate a motor vehicle for six (6) hours. And you are required to have a driver with you before and after your MRI scan.
- If your exam required IV Contrast, a detailed list of adverse symptoms will be given to you. After your scan is complete and you experience any adverse symptoms please go to an Emergency Room.

Frequently Asked Questions?

Why is MRI a preferred modality in orthopedics?

MRI clearly shows muscle, tendons, ligaments, cartilage, joint fluid, and bone.

Why is it taking so long to schedule my MRI?

Your MRI needs to be pre-authorized by your insurance carrier, this process may take up to 14 business days.

How does the MRI get the image?

The magnet aligns the hydrogen protons in your body and the radiofrequency produces waves that interact with the protons. The time it takes for the protons to realign to the magnet identifies the tissue. The machine senses these "peaks" and constructs the image on the technologists screen.

Why does it make a loud noise?

The banging sound is the vibration of metal coils in the machine caused by rapid pulses of electricity.

Will I be enclosed in a tunnel?

The MRI has a short tunnel which means for lower extremity exams the patient will lay with their head outside the tunnel. Please mention to the MRI assistant during your screening if you are or might be claustrophobic.

Can I be scanned with metal in my body?

A thorough screening questionnaire will take place prior to your exam. All metal must be identified and approved prior to your scan.

How long will my exam take?

Start to finish takes about 2 hours, you will need to remain still in the scanner for about 40 minutes, or longer depending on the exam ordered.