

Appointment Information

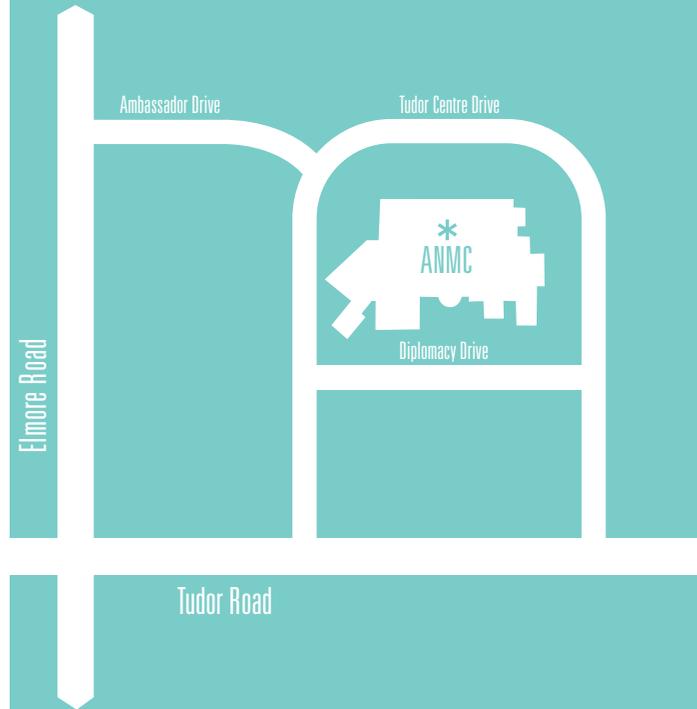
Date: _____

Time: _____

Study: _____

We request that you **arrive 15 minutes prior** to your appointment time for registration purposes.

The ANMC Radiology Department is located on the first floor of the ANMC hospital next to the Emergency Room.



Alaska Native Medical Center

MRI

Patient Information

Please contact us if you have questions:
(907) 729-2300



Alaska Native Medical Center
4315 Diplomacy Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508
anmc.org



What is MRI?

MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) uses a powerful magnetic field, with the aide of radio waves and a computer to obtain very detailed images of tissues and organs throughout your body without the need of X-rays. MRI is widely used for imaging soft tissues in the body including and not limited to the brain, nerves and muscles.

How to prepare for your MRI scan

We recommend that you wear loose and comfortable clothing without any metal snaps or zippers. Gowns will be available to you if necessary. You will be asked to remove all loose metal objects from your body. For your convenience, we have storage lockers available to keep your valuables during your scan. If you have anxiety or a fear of enclosed spaces, you may want to ask your physician for a mild sedative prescription prior to your appointment. Certain medical conditions can prevent you from having an MRI. Your MRI exam may not be performed if you have any of the following:

- Aneurysm clips
- Certain cardiac valves
- Metal fragments in one or both eyes
- Any other implanted metal device
- Internal defibrillator or pacemaker
- Cochlear implant
- Certain types of clips used on brain aneurysms
- Certain types of coils within blood vessels

You should tell the technologist if you have any medical or electronic devices in your body. They may interfere with your exam or pose a risk depending on the nature and the strength of the MRI magnet.

If a contrast MRI is ordered, all patients over 60 years of age or those who have diabetes or poor kidney function will require special screening to determine if the contrast agent GADAVIST can be administered. This contrast highlights dense parts of the body resulting in a better image.

Please do not move during your test as this will produce blurry images.

What happens during the MRI?

In the MRI room, the technologist will assist you on to the table. The machine itself looks like a small tunnel that is well-lit, air conditioned and fully equipped with a two-way communication system so you can communicate with the technologist. Throughout the exam, you will hear loud noises ranging from chirping sounds to some banging and knocking. Ear plugs will be provided in order to minimize the noise level. In some cases, stereo headphones will be provided to minimize sound and allowing you to listen to music. The entire exam can range from 30-60 minutes, depending on what type of scan is being performed. The machine talks and gives instruction on when to hold your breath and breathe during some exams.

What happens after your scan?

Due to the fact that there are no side effects after having an MRI, you may leave immediately after the scan. The radiologist will view your images and report the results to your primary doctor.