

MRI REFERENCE CHART: What to Order and How to Order it

Clinical Indications	MR Arthrogram	Without IV Contrast	With & Without IV Contrast	What to Order	Optima MR450W GEM
MRI TMJ					
TMJ, clicking/popping, TMJ joint		✓		MRI TMJ bilateral without contrast	✓
MRI EXTREMITIES					
Osteomyelitis for ANY extremity; spine or general infection			✓	MRI (indicate area of interest) with AND without contrast	✓
Soft tissue mass of ANY extremity or joint			✓	MRI (indicate area of interest) with AND without contrast	✓
UPPER EXTREMITIES - JOINTS: (shoulder/elbow/wrist/hand/fingers)					
Evaluate injury, ligament tear, occult fracture or pain of shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand or fingers		✓		MRI (indicate area of interest: shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand or fingers) without contrast	✓
Slap lesion, labral tear, TFCC tear, shoulder instability, post-op shoulder	✓			MR arthrogram* (indicate area of interest)	✓
UPPER EXTREMITIES - SOFT TISSUE					
Pain of humerus or forearm		✓		MRI (indicate area of interest: humerus or forearm) without contrast	✓
Palpable mass, neuroma, tumor			✓	MRI (indicate area of interest) with AND without contrast	
LOWER EXTREMITIES/JOINTS: (hip/knee/ankle/foot/toes)					
Evaluate for meniscal injury, ligament tear, occult fracture or pain of hip, knee, ankle, foot or toes		✓		MRI (indicate area of interest: hip, knee, ankle, foot or toes) without contrast	✓
Hip labral tear	✓			MR arthrogram* (indicate area of interest)	✓
LOWER EXTREMITIES - SOFT TISSUE EXAMS: (femur/tibia/fibula/calf)					
Pain of femur/tibia/fibula/calf		✓		MRI (indicate area of interest: femur/tibia/fibula/calf) without contrast	✓
Palpable mass, neuroma, tumor			✓	MRI (indicate area of interest) with AND without contrast	✓

Exams may vary depending on patient's history. Neuro exams on reverse.

If Contrast is specifically requested by the practitioner/referrer, this contrast will be administered intraarticularly (a needle is guided into the joint and contrast is injected into the joint.) This will require the patient to have a fluoroscopy study first during which the injection will take place, followed by an MRI of the area in question.

Questions? Call and ask to speak to a radiologist.
403.777.4MRI (4674) or toll-free 1.877.4CT.4MRI
radiology.ca

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Clinical Indications	Without IV Contrast	With and Without IV Contrast	What to Order	450w*
MRI BRAIN				
Vertigo, dementia, memory loss, MS, epilepsy, strokes, weakness, HA, TIA	✓		MRI brain without contrast	✓
R/O tumor, history of CA, Bell's palsy, seizures		✓	MRI brain with AND without contrast	✓
MRI IACS				
Known acoustic neuroma, prior surgery for acoustic neuroma		✓	MRI brain & IAC's both with AND without contrast	✓
Hearing loss, history of vertigo, tinnitus, R/O acoustic neuroma	✓		MRI brain & IAC's without contrast	✓
MRI PITUITARY				
R/O pituitary adenoma, tumor, abnormal prolactin, galactorrhea, amenorrhea		✓	MRI brain and pituitary both with AND without contrast	✓
MRI ORBITS				
History of visual disturbances, proptosis, optic nerve		✓	MRI brain and orbits both with AND without contrast	✓
MRI SOFT TISSUE NECK				
Soft tissue neck mass		✓	MRI base of skull to neck mass with contrast	✓
MRA EXAMS - NEURO				
MRA BRAIN				
For Circle of Willis (COW): R/O or history of aneurysm, history of TIAs	✓		MRI head AND COW	✓
Venous study (MRV) brain	✓		MRV (usually ordered with MRI brain)	✓
MRA NECK				
Carotid bifurcation only		✓	MRA neck with contrast	✓
R/O or history of aneurysm, vertigo, bilateral blood pressure differences, history of carotid stenosis, history of TIAs, aortic arch eval, vertebral stroke, subclavian steal, abnormal ultrasound		✓	MRI neck with AND without contrast	✓
MRI - SPINE				
Cervical spine: neck pain, radiculopathy, myelopathy, previous surgery within last 5 years	✓		MRI C-spine without contrast	✓
Cervical spine: MS, spinal tumor, infection, syrinx		✓	MRI C-spine with AND without contrast	✓
Thoracic spine: mid-back pain, radiculopathy, myelopathy	✓		MRI T-spine without contrast	✓
Thoracic spine: MS, spinal tumor, infection, syrinx, previous surgery within last 5 years		✓	MRI T-spine with AND without contrast	✓
Lumbar spine: low-back pain, radiculopathy, myelopathy, MS, bowel & bladder dysfunction	✓		MRI L-spine without contrast	✓
Lumbar spine: spinal tumor, infection, syrinx, post-op spinal surgery		✓	MRI L-spine with AND without contrast	✓

Clinical Indications	Without IV Contrast	With and Without IV Contrast	What to Order	450w*
BODY				
MRI CHEST				
Evaluate mass or pain, rib cartilage, diaphragm		✓	MRI chest with AND without contrast	✓
MRI BRACHIAL PLEXUS				
Brachial plexus neuropathy	✓		MRI brachial plexus without contrast	✓
BONY CHEST				
AC joint pain, SC joint pain, sternum, scapula	✓		MRI (indicate area of interest) without contrast	✓
MRI ABDOMEN				
Tumor, liver or pancreas evaluation		✓	MRI liver with AND without contrast	✓
Bile duct and pancreatic duct evaluation, R/O stone, or obstruction	✓		MRCP without contrast (usually done with MRI liver)	✓
Liver, pancreas, kidney (renals)		✓	MRI abdomen with AND without contrast	✓
Adrenals	✓		MRI abdomen without contrast	✓
MRI PELVIS				
Pelvic pain, mass, surgical planning		✓	MRI pelvis with AND without contrast	✓
Pelvic pain, mass, surgical planning, gyne abnormalities		✓	MRI pelvis with AND without contrast	✓
MSK PELVIS				
Sacral fracture, coccyx fracture, SI joint pain, muscle strain	✓		MRI pelvis without contrast	✓
MRI RENAL				
R/O renal tumor, kidney tumor or mass		✓	MRI renal with AND without contrast	✓
MRA EXAMS - BODY				
MRA RENAL				
Renal artery hypertension		✓	MRA renal with AND without contrast	✓
MRI MAMMOGRAPHY (BREAST)				
History of breast cancer, abnormal diagnostic mammogram, abnormal diagnostics ultrasound (requires recent mammography study)		✓	MRI breast with AND without contrast (if necessary, call to discuss with radiologist)	✓

*450w = Optima MR450w 1.5T MRI Scanner

Exams may vary depending on patient's history.
Orthopedic/extremity exams on reverse.