

Breast MRI

at Scottsdale Healthcare Shea



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What is Breast MRI?

A completely different way of viewing the breast and its tissue, Breast MRI is an advanced tool that uses 3D techniques. A Breast MRI can look deep into breast tissue and discover abnormalities that other tools cannot see. Scottsdale Healthcare Shea now offers this innovative imaging procedure.

When is a Breast MRI Necessary?

Mammograms are used as a screening tool for breast abnormalities. They are effective tools used on a regular basis to detect problems. Other tools like a breast ultrasound or a specialized mammogram can be used to further diagnose problems.

Breast MRI has potential value when other tests are inconclusive. It is also especially useful in taking images of very dense tissues.

Differences between a Mammogram and a Breast MRI

	Mammogram	Breast MRI
Purpose	Screening	Specific breast problems
Radiation	Yes	No
Widely available	Yes	No
Injection	No	Required
Insurance coverage	Usually	Usually

Will I use an MRI instead of my mammogram?

No. You should continue getting mammograms on a regular basis. Your annual mammogram is the most effective screening tool in breast cancer detection.

What happens in a Breast MRI?

You'll change into a hospital gown. An IV will be inserted into your arm. Lying down on a table, your breasts will be placed into cup-like indentations. The table is moved into the MRI machine.

You'll lie very still while the images are taken. About halfway into the exam, you'll receive a painless injection that will make the tissue easier to see.

The exam typically takes 45 minutes. Patients with implants may have longer scan times.

If you are claustrophobic or anxious about your MRI exam, we can either have your physician prescribe you oral sedation, or we can provide conscious sedation or anesthesia services, with your physician's order. However, you will need a ride home if you use any sedation.

Once complete, computers will analyze the images. Your physician will contact you with the results.

Precautions

Because the Breast MRI uses magnetic imaging, people with pacemakers, internal pump devices or other implanted metal objects may not undergo an MRI.

For the test to work properly, an injection and an IV are required.

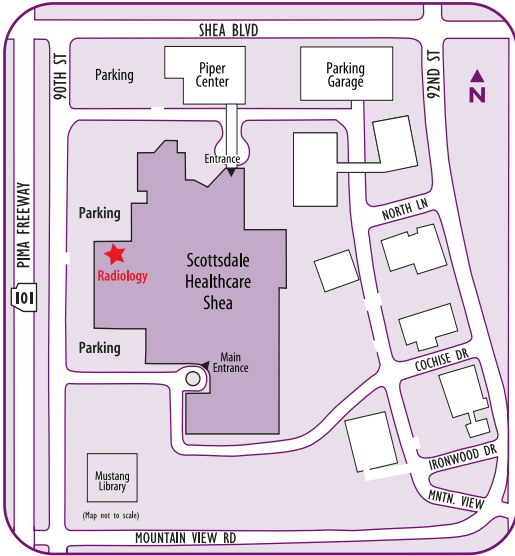
The following conditions /situations may affect the scheduling of your breast MRI:

- Pre-menopause Must schedule during days 14-17 of your cycle
- Post-menopause If on Hormone Replacement Therapy, please notify the MRI technologist.
- Lumpectomy Can be imaged immediately after or before additional therapy.
- Breast Biopsy Okay for MRI
- Mammograms Must have most recent mammogram and report on site on appointment day.

Where and how can I schedule a Breast MRI?

Breast MRI requires a referral and a prescription from your physician.

To schedule your exam at Scottsdale Healthcare Shea, call Centralized Scheduling at 480-882-4703.



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