

NOTES:

For more information about Diagnostic Imaging Services of Saint Anne's Hospital, please visit SaintAnnesHospital.org/diagnostic-imaging

Call location for hours and directions

Locations:

Complete Diagnostic Imaging Services

Saint Anne's Hospital
Ground Floor, 795 Middle Street, Fall River
508-674-5600 ext. 2300 • Fax 508-235-5636
Free valet parking

MRI satellite

The PrimaCARE Medical Center
289 Pleasant Street, Fall River,
508-235-5795

Ample free parking, and free valet parking available

Saint Anne's Hospital Diagnostic Imaging Satellite

X-ray

119 Coggeshall Street
New Bedford, MA 02746

Saint Anne's Hospital

A STEWARD FAMILY HOSPITAL



795 Middle Street, Fall River, MA 02721
Main Number and Directions 508-674-5600

Diagnostic Imaging Services at Saint Anne's Hospital

For our patients and their physicians, Saint Anne's Diagnostic Imaging Services combines the expertise of board-certified radiologists with the area's most comprehensive range of advanced imaging technology. Our fully digitized network of imaging technology assures the highest imaging quality with less time and inconvenience for patients, as well as rapid access to the results for physicians. Images can be viewed and sent via computer to multiple specialists within the hospital, across town to a physician's office or to other hospitals and specialists in the Steward Family network.

Our dedicated team of physicians and technologists is focused on providing the highest quality imaging and patient comfort. This extends to working with our youngest patients as well as others who require special considerations and appointment scheduling for imaging.

We offer a spectrum of services, including:

- Computerized Tomography (CT) scanning
- Digital X-ray
- Digital Mammography provided in our dedicated Robert F. Stoico/FIRSTFED Center for Breast Care
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Nuclear Medicine with CT capability
- PET/CT imaging
- Ultrasound

INTERPRETER SERVICES AVAILABLE

Portuguese - Português

Fala Português? Vamos oferecer-lhe um intérprete gratuito.

Spanish - Español

¿Habla español? Le proporcionaremos un intérprete sin costo alguno para usted.

Steward Health Care complies with applicable Federal and State civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability or age.

Digital Imaging: A High-Tech Change for Better Care

Digital imaging creates a "filmless" environment that permits rapid viewing of pictures and secure transmission to physicians whether they are in the hospital, their nearby practice or a specialist located miles away. Digital images are high quality, environmentally friendly and easier to access via PACS (Picture Archiving Communication System). Saint Anne's was the first area hospital to adopt this innovation as part of a Steward Health Care system effort to link our family of hospitals and their expertise.

The PACS system is part of a patient's secure and confidential electronic medical record, which provides for improved care through integration of various tests and reports all in one easily-retrievable location.

Care Agreement:

You have the right to help plan your care. To help with this plan, you must learn about your health condition and how it may be treated. You can then discuss treatment options with your caregivers. Work with them to decide what care may be used to treat you. You always have the right to refuse treatment.

SaintAnnesHospital.org

Saint Anne's Hospital

A STEWARD FAMILY HOSPITAL



DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING SERVICES



MRI

PATIENT INFORMATION



Accredited by the American College of Radiology



Understanding Your Exam

What is an MRI?

A magnetic resonance (REZ-oh-nans) imaging scan is usually called an MRI. It is a medical diagnostic test that takes pictures of the inside of the body. Each picture or “slice” shows only a few layers of body tissue at a time. The MRI machine uses a large magnet and a computer to make pictures of your body. Pictures taken this way may help caregivers find and see problems in the body more easily.

Why do I need an MRI?

The pictures made during an MRI help caregivers learn more about the cause of your health problem. An MRI can be used to evaluate brain, neck, and spinal cord problems. It can also help caregivers look at problems with your chest, heart, abdomen, joints, or blood vessels. Nearly every part of the body can be studied with an MRI.

How does the MRI work?

The MRI machine is large and looks like a hollow tube. You will lie on a bed that will mechanically move into the tube during the test.

The technologist sits behind a window and will talk to you during your scan. The MRI machine aims magnetic

and radio waves at the part of your body being tested. These waves pass through your body to create pictures that show up on a computer screen. These images can then be taken or sent to your caregiver digitally.

Are there times a person should not have an MRI?

- MRI is usually avoided during the first three months of pregnancy. Talk with your pregnancy caregiver before having an MRI during this time.
- You should not have an MRI if you have anything in your body that attracts a magnet.

You may not be able to have an MRI if you have any of the following things in or on your body:

- Aneurysm clips
- Artificial or prosthetic limbs or joints, such as an artificial knee joint 6–8 weeks post-op
- Bullets or pieces of shrapnel
- Cochlear (ear) implants
- Heart pacemaker or artificial heart valve
- Implanted cardiac defibrillator
- Implanted IV ports
- Implanted spinal stimulator
- Insulin pump
- Intrauterine device (IUD)
- Medication patch, transdermal or skin patch. Examples of medication patches are nicotine, birth control, and

nitroglycerin patches. Ask your caregiver if your patch should be taken off your skin during the MRI.

- Metal pins, plates, screws, or surgical staples. (In most cases, these things will not cause a problem with an MRI if they have been in you for more than four to six weeks.)
- Pieces of metal fragments in your eyes from welding.
- Tattoos and permanent eyeliner because the paint used has lead in it that the magnet can pull out.

During The Test

You may be asked to put on a gown, and then the technologist will help you lie down on the MRI table. The body part being tested may be kept in place with a cradle or straps to hold it very still. You may speak to your caregiver at all times during your test, and you will be given an “emergency” call button. The technologist will stop the test and move your bed out of the MRI machine immediately if you press the button. This test usually takes between 15 and 90 minutes.

- The bed slides into the round tube in the center of the machine. You hear very loud banging noises (the sound of the magnets moving) during the series of scans. You will be given earplugs to help soften the noises.
- Each MRI is made up of a number of sets of image scans (pictures). You must lie very still during the actual scans, for a few seconds to a few minutes at a time. You may be able to move a little in between the scan sets. The technologist may put padding or cushions around and under you for comfort.
- Some MRI tests need contrast material to help make your body part show up better in the pictures. The contrast is put through an IV started in a vein in your hand or arm. Your skin around the IV may feel warm or cold as the contrast is put into the IV. Tell your caregiver if you feel any unusual things as the contrast is given.

After You Leave

Continue with your medications according to your physician’s directions and follow the instructions given to you after the test. If you think your medicines are not helping or if you feel you are having side effects, call your physician. If you are taking antibiotics, take them until they are all gone, even if you feel better.

Appointment Scheduling for MRI

508-235-5339

Monday-Friday 8 am - 6 pm

Your physician’s office will schedule your MRI. Our Scheduling staff are able to assist with all scheduling needs, as well as provide patients and physician practices exam preparation instructions when applicable.

If you are unable to keep your appointment and need to reschedule or if you wish to cancel your appointment, please contact us as soon as possible. A 24 hour notice would be greatly appreciated.

Pre-Registration By Phone: 508-235-5674

To expedite your visit, please contact our Patient Assistance Center to pre-register for your exam. If we do not hear from you, a member of our staff will attempt to reach you. Please ensure your physician has your most up to date contact information. During the registration process we can assist you with your co-pay, coinsurance, and deductible.

Once you have pre-registered, you can arrive on the scheduled day and time and go directly to the Diagnostic Imaging Services location.

The Day Of Your Exam

- Use the Valet Parking services where available, Monday through Friday, and reduce the amount of time you spend looking for parking. It’s free, and you can pick up your car at the entrance when you are finished with your appointment. No long walks! Hours vary by location.
- For exams scheduled at the hospital: If you have not pre-registered, please go to Patient Registration, located near the main entrance to the hospital, 30 minutes prior to your scheduled exam appointment to be registered for your exam.
- If you are diabetic, inform staff and take your medications as you would normally.
- We want our patients to be as comfortable as possible while having tests performed. However, we ask that you not bring children with you unless you have an adult to watch and care for them while you are having your procedure.
- Pediatric patients must be accompanied by either a parent or legal guardian in order to receive care.