

Getting an MRI Scan

(Magnetic Resonance Imaging)

Photo Preparation Book





This is the Radiology Waiting Room. There are a lot of fun things to do in this room while I wait!

The people in this room are waiting for pictures called X-rays, Ultrasounds, CT scans, or MRI's (just like me!)



Next, I will go to one of the registration desks. The patient services representative will let the technologists and nurses know that I am here.



I will also get a special bracelet that tells everyone who I am. Then I will go back to the waiting room.



Next, a nurse or PCT (Patient Care Technician) will walk me from the waiting room to my very own “get ready” room. On the way, I will get to see how much I weigh and how tall I am!



Then, the nurse will ask me and the grown-up that I came with some questions so they can get to know me better!



The MRI camera uses a very strong magnet to take pictures of the inside of my body. The camera is inside the circle (or tunnel).

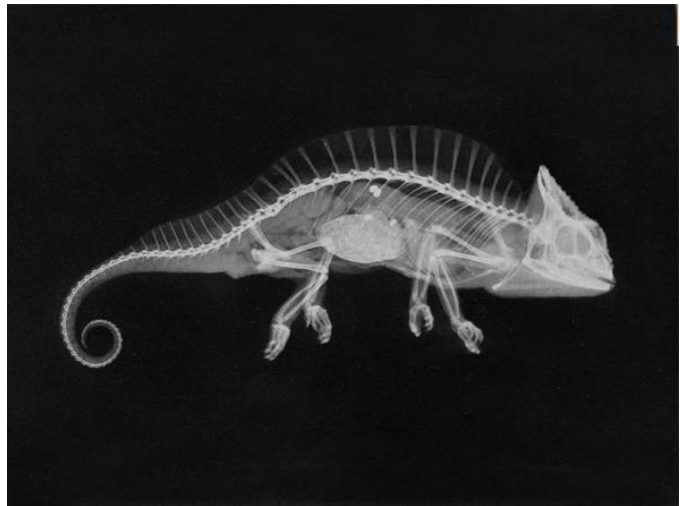
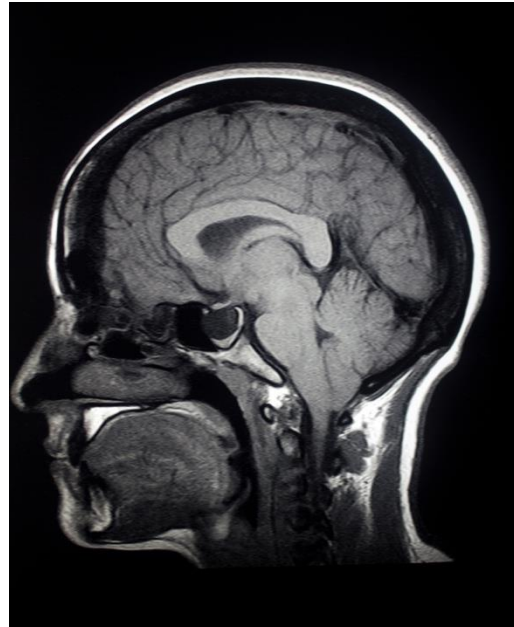


The camera makes noise as it takes my picture, but it does not touch me!

I can ask my nurse what the noises sound like!

Some kids say it sounds like a dog barking, a train, robots beeping or construction.

This is what an actual MRI
picture looks like:



Can you guess which parts of
the body they show?

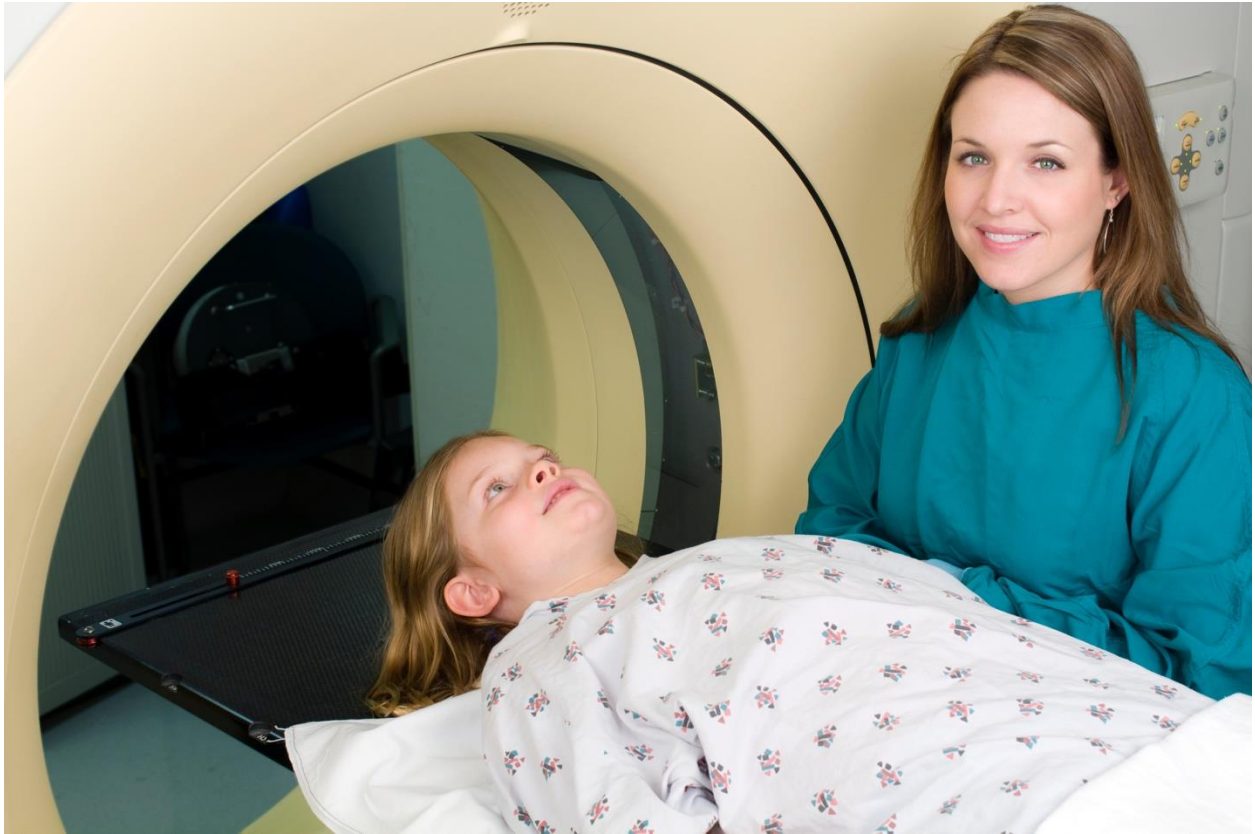


Before I get my pictures taken my nurse will ask me (and the grown-up that came with me) to take off anything that has metal on or in it.

I will need to change into hospital pajamas.



My things can be kept safe and secure in a locker while my pictures are taken, and I will change back into my clothes when I am all done.



The most important job while I am getting pictures taken, is to
STAY REALLY, REALLY STILL!!

I will have a seatbelt on to help remind me
to stay still.

We understand it is hard to stay still sometimes! To help, I can...



Squeeze a stress ball!



Watch and listen to a movie of my choice!

Additional Support

If your child has any special needs or health issues you feel the doctor needs to know about, please call the Department of Pediatric Radiology at Children's to speak with a technologist or Child Life Specialist before the test. (412) 692-5512.

It is important to notify us in advance about any special needs.

Preparing your child beforehand, as well as comforting your child during the test, will help your child have a more positive experience.

Sometimes it is difficult to know how to explain tests to children. These preparation books have been created to help you and your child feel as prepared as possible.

If you feel that your child will have difficulty during the test or needs a more developmentally appropriate explanation prior to their visit, please call the Department of Pediatric Radiology's Child Life Specialist (412) 692- 9532.