

MRI Contrast Information – GADOLINIUM

As you are having Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), it is important that you be informed about the procedure. You may need to have an injection of “dye” or contrast. The contrast will be given by an injection into a vein in your hand, arm or leg; this dye makes certain diseases and important body structures more visible on MRI images. Most people have no ill effects from the contrast. Sometimes mild reactions do occur but pass without treatment or respond quickly to medication. The risks or reactions associated with the contrast injection may include but are not limited to:

- a “sweet” taste in your mouth, headache, discomfort at the site of injection, nausea, and itchiness.
- Very rarely some people have pain in other parts of their body, dizziness, vomiting, paresthesia (your skin may feel like it is burning, itching or tingling) or an allergic reaction (hives, watery eyes).
- Severe reactions very rarely occur. These include difficulty breathing, shock and heart failure – requiring medical treatment.

If you feel any discomfort or experience any of these symptoms please tell the technologist doing your test. It is the belief of the doctors caring for you that the contrast, if required, will help in the diagnosis and treatment of your condition.

Should you have any of these symptoms after your test please contact your family physician right away.

For Patients with advanced Renal/Kidney Disease or who are on renal dialysis:

NSF (Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis) is a very rare condition of which the cause is unknown, however it is known to occur in some patients with advanced renal disease and/or who are on renal dialysis. This disease can cause thickening and hardening of the skin, red patches, itching or swelling of the skin, joint stiffness and very rarely may affect the lung and other organs. Some studies have suggested that getting an injection of MRI contrast (gadolinium) has been linked with a very small number of patients developing NSF. Even in patients with severe or end stage renal disease, the chance of developing NSF is very rare. Other imaging methods have been explored and MRI contrast will help in the diagnosis and treatment of your condition. If after receiving the MRI contrast, should you develop any of these signs or symptoms, please follow up with your family physician right away.

I, _____ (name of patient/legal representative) consent to and confirm that the nature and the anticipated effects of the injecting contrast dye for the purpose of a Diagnostic Imaging exam, including the specific risks, have been explained to me by _____ and that available alternatives have been discussed with me by the physician who is requesting this examination, and I am satisfied with, and understand the information provided to me. I have had the opportunity to ask questions and they have been answered to my satisfaction.

Signature of patient OR guardian

Printed name of patient OR Guardian

Date (dd/mm/yy) and Time

Witness Signature

Health Care provider Certification:

I hereby certify that I have explained the above procedure to _____ who, in my opinion, understands the nature and risks of the procedure.

Signature of health care provider

Printed name of health care provider

MRI Staff to fill out if patient has renal failure and/or on renal dialysis			
Creatinine level: _____	GFR: _____	Radiologist consult with Dr. _____	N/A
Date collected : _____	Post exam dialysis required?	Y	N
Checked with radiologist Dr. _____	If yes: follow up instructions given to client?	Y	N
Contrast Injected by: _____ @ _____ hrs. Amount _____ cc			
Contrast type: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Lot # _____			