

WHAT IS THE AURORA BREAST MRI?

Your doctor has referred you for a breast MRI exam using the Aurora® 1.5T Dedicated Breast MRI System. The Aurora System is the only commercially available, FDA-cleared MRI system designed specifically for breast imaging. Its unique technology captures the highest quality images that reveal even the smallest abnormalities. The detail that can be obtained provides valuable information in making earlier diagnoses and treatment decisions by your doctor.

Naturally, since this system is intended exclusively for breast imaging, it's also designed for a woman's comfort. The Aurora System uses a uniquely contoured examination table where the patient lies face down, with both breasts suspended away from the chest, without compression. This eliminates the discomfort that's normally experienced with mammography. And because you enter the Aurora System feet first, the feeling of claustrophobia is greatly reduced.



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*Why you were
referred for an
Aurora Breast
MRI exam*

Questions and
Answers on
your upcoming
diagnostic
exam

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WHAT IS MRI?

MRI is a sophisticated technology that stands for Magnetic Resonance Imaging. By using a computer, a magnetic field and radio waves (instead of x-rays), the MRI produces detailed images of the soft tissues in the body—from any angle and with great clarity. It's a vital diagnostic tool when used in conjunction with mammography and ultrasound. The increased level of detail that MRI offers helps in making more informed diagnoses.

MRI technology has been around for over 20 years, providing information to help in the early diagnosis and treatment of disease. Most recently, the technology has been used successfully in breast imaging and is playing an increasingly important role in earlier diagnosis.



WHY DO DOCTORS RECOMMEND MRI?

MRI (especially dedicated breast MRI) is an ideal diagnostic instrument for:

- monitoring of high-risk patients
- surgical planning
- women who have had breast augmentation
- women with dense breasts

WHAT SHOULD YOU EXPECT DURING YOUR EXAMINATION?

First, you'll lie on your stomach on the contoured Aurora examination table (where there are special openings in the table for both breasts), and an initial scan will be taken.

Next, a contrast enhancement agent is administered to help highlight various structures in the breast tissue. Then, two additional scans are taken.

That's it. The exam lasts about 30 minutes. And you'll be able to communicate with the technologist at all times.

WHAT PREPARATION IS NECESSARY?

You don't need any special preparation.

You can eat and drink as you normally would. You can also engage in regular activities and take any prescription medication. Simply arrive about 30 minutes before your appointment time. When you arrive, you'll be asked to change into a gown, and remove all metallic objects such as jewelry, glasses, hairpins, dentures and makeup—since anything that contains metal can distort MRI signals. We also ask you to avoid heavy use of anti-perspirants and no body powder.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE EXAM?

As there are no side effects with MRI, you can continue your normal activities as soon as the exam is over. Your MRI images will be interpreted by the radiologist and a report will be sent to your physician.

We hope this information is helpful in briefly describing your MRI exam using the new, Aurora Breast MRI System. It is our goal to help make your experience with MRI a more beneficial one.