

# Get Ready for your MRI with Anesthesia



# What Does Having an MRI Mean?

MRI is short for Magnetic Resonance Imaging.

An MRI is a camera that takes pictures of the inside of your body. You will get a medicine called anesthesia to help you sleep during your MRI. This means you will not see, feel, or hear anything during your pictures.

# First Steps



## Front Desk

The front desk is the first place you will come to in the hospital.



## Name Sticker

You and your caregiver will check in here and get a sticker with your names on it. This tells everyone at the hospital who you are!



## Admitting Desk

Next, you and your caregiver will go to the admitting desk to check in for your MRI. While here, your caregiver will fill out some papers about your MRI.



## Hospital Bracelet

You will get a hospital bracelet. This bracelet tells the doctors and nurses who you are (like your caregiver's sticker). You will wear this the whole time you are at the hospital.

Next, you and your caregiver will walk to the radiology waiting room. You will check in at the desk and wait for a staff member to call your name.

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You can bring your favorite items from home, like toys, your cell phone or tablet, a stuffed animal, blanket, pillow, fidget toys, and anything else that helps you feel calm and pass the time!

Once your name is called, you will follow a staff member to get your vital signs taken.



# Vital Signs



## Thermometer

A staff member will roll a thermometer across your forehead and behind your ear to take your temperature.



## Blood Pressure Cuff

A blood pressure cuff is a band that will be wrapped around your arm to measure how your heart is pumping blood. It is important to hold still while it gives your arm a squeeze.



## Pulse Oximeter

A pulse oximeter will be placed on your finger. This machine tells the doctor how much oxygen is in your body.



# RAU Room

Next, you will go to your room in the Radiology Anesthesia Unit (or RAU for short). You and your caregiver will wait here until it is time for your MRI.

In this room, you may meet lots of people: your nurses, doctor, surgeon, anesthesiologist, MRI technologist, and child life specialist.

You can watch TV, use your tablet or cell phone, play with toys from home, or ask a staff member for things to do.



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You will put on a hospital gown and shorts. This way, the staff will know that you are clean and ready for your MRI.

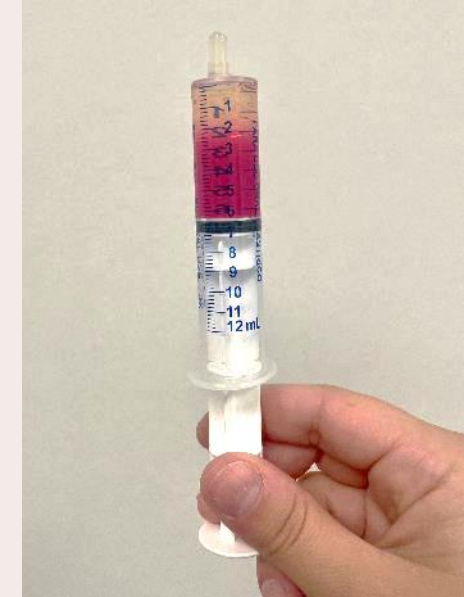


# Pre-Med/"Silly Juice"

Then, you will drink a medicine that we like to call "silly juice". This medicine will help you relax and make you more comfortable before you go to MRI.

You can drink it from a syringe or cup.\*

\*Some kids under the age of 10 get their medicine a different way, through something called an IV. If you need an IV, ask for a child life specialist to come explain it to you!







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Next, you will go down this hallway with your nurse to the MRI room. The bed has wheels so your nurse will push the bed with you lying in it.

# MRI Room

There will be a lot of people in the MRI Room to help keep you safe. You may see your nurse, the MRI technologist, the anesthesiologist, and even a child life specialist. They will help you get onto the MRI bed.



A pulse oximeter will go on your finger to check your oxygen and breathing during your MRI.

EKG leads are stickers that go on your chest. These tell the doctors how your heart is doing.

A blood pressure cuff will go on your arm or leg, like when your vital signs were checked.

1

Pulse Oximeter



2

EKG Leads



3

Blood Pressure Cuff



# Anesthesia/Oxygen Mask

The anesthesiologist (the doctor in charge of your sleep medicine) will place this mask over your nose and mouth to give you the sleep medicine and extra oxygen.

The anesthesiologist will be with you during your entire MRI. Their job is to give you the perfect amount of anesthesia for your body the whole time! **Anesthesia makes you sleep so you cannot feel, see, or hear anything during your MRI.**





# RAU Recovery Room

After your MRI is done, you will wake up in this room.

When you first get to this room, you will be completely asleep. Your body will slowly wake up as your sleepy medicine wears off.

You will have a nurse that sits next to you to keep you safe. Your caregiver can also be with you as you start waking up.



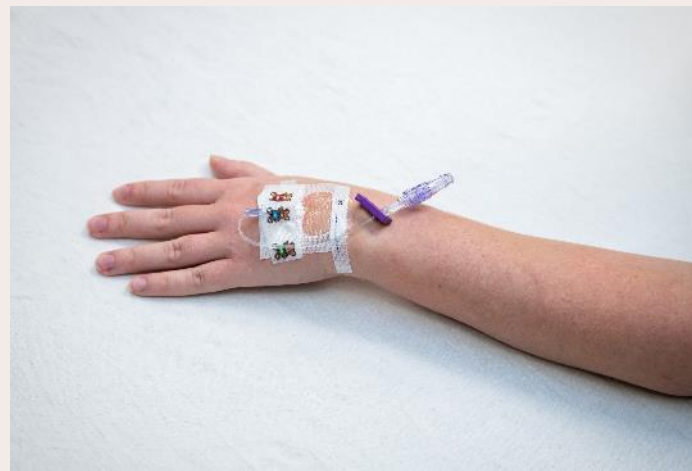
# IV

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When you wake up, you will still have the IV in your hand or arm.

Remember, there is no needle in here, so you can still move while it is in!

You will not go home with the medicine straw.  
When your body no longer needs it, the nurses will take it out. Some kids say that it feels like a band-aid coming off when the nurses take it off.







thank you

We hope that this presentation has helped prepare you for your upcoming MRI.

Please email [kidscan@childrens.com](mailto:kidscan@childrens.com) for additional MRI resources.

children'shealth<sup>?</sup>