

## MRI Exams Contrast vs Non-Contrast Guide

These suggestions are general guidelines that apply to the use of contrast for MRI exams provided at Oregon Imaging Centers. If you have questions about ordering your patient's MRI, we encourage you to speak with a radiologist about the study and the need for contrast.

**Speak with a Radiologist: 541-284-4016**

Category	Diagnosis	IV Contrast	Suggested Exam
Brain/Facial	Acoustic Neuroma/Schwannoma	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Acute CVA/TIA	No	MRI Brain Without
	Acute Headache	No	MRI Brain Without
	Aneurysm	No	MRI Brain Without
	Anosmia (Loss of Smell)	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Aphasia (Speech Difficulty)	No	MRI Brain Without
	Arnold Chiari Malformation	No	MRI Brain Without
	Bells Palsy	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Brain Tumor	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Cancer (Any Type)	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Concussion	No	MRI Brain Without
	Cushings	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	CVA/TIA	No	MRI Brain With and Without
	Dementia	No	MRI Brain With and Without
	Diplopia (Double Vision)	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Facial Pain	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Hearing Loss	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Hemifacial Spasm	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	History of Cancer/Mets	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	HIV/AIDS	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Hypogonadism	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Infection	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Intracranial Hemorrhage	No	MRI Brain Without
	Meningioma	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Multiple Sclerosis	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Orbit Cancer/Mass Tumor	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Parkinsons	No	MRI Brain Without
	Pituitary	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Seizure/Epilepsy	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without
	Syncope	No	MRI Brain Without
Tic de Leroux	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without	
Tinnitus	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without	
Trauma/Hematoma	No	MRI Brain Without	
Trigeminal Neuralgia	Yes	MRI Brain With and Without	
Vertigo/Dizziness	No	MRI Brain Without	
Neck	All soft tissue neck protocols	Yes	MRI Neck With and Without*

**\* After less than 30 GFR, please consult with a radiologist if indicated.**

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<b>Category</b>	<b>Diagnosis</b>	<b>IV Contrast</b>	<b>Suggested Exam</b>
Spine	Bone Tumor/Mets	Yes	MRI Cervical, Thoracic or Lumbar With and Without
	Discitis	Yes	MRI Cervical, Thoracic or Lumbar With and Without
	Extremity Numbness/Tingling	No	MRI Cervical, Thoracic or Lumbar Without
	History of Lumbar Surgery	Yes	MRI Lumbar With and Without
	Multiple Sclerosis	Yes	MRI Cervical or Thoracic With and Without
	Osteomyelitis/Infection	Yes	MRI Cervical, Thoracic or Lumbar With and Without
	Radiculopathy/Stenosis	No	MRI Cervical, Thoracic or Lumbar Without
	Syrinx	Yes	MRI Cervical or Thoracic With and Without*
	Transverse Myelitis	Yes	MRI Cervical, Thoracic or Lumbar With and Without
			<b>* Not an indication for lumbar spine</b>
Abdomen	All Abdomen Protocols	Yes	MRI Abdomen With and Without*
	The Exception: If biliary ducts in question	No	MRCP Without – This can be done in conjunction with an abdomen without and with if needed, or just by itself.
Pelvis	Bone for Cancer/mets	Yes	MRI Pelvis With and Without
	Bone for Fracture	No	MRI Pelvis Without
	Fibroids	Yes	MRI Pelvis With and Without
	Lumbar Plexis	No	MRI Pelvis Without
	Mass/Tumor/Mets	Yes	MRI Pelvis With and Without
	Ovarian/Uterine Cancer	Yes	MRI Pelvis With and Without
	Pelvic Floor Dysfunction	No	MRI Pelvis Without
	Prostate Cancer	Yes	MRI Pelvis With and Without
	Pectocelle	No	MRI Pelvis Without
	Sciatica	No	MRI Pelvis Without
Urinary Incontinence	No	MRI Pelvis Without	
Extremities	Bone Tumor/Mets	Yes	Appropriate Body Part With and Without
	Lypoma	Yes	Appropriate Body Part With and Without
	Myositis	Yes	Appropriate Body Part With and Without
	Pain Muscle/Tendon Tear	No	Appropriate Body Part Without
	Soft Tissue Mass	Yes	Appropriate Body Part With and Without
	Trauma Fracture	No	Appropriate Body Part Without
	If Arthrogram Indicated:	Yes	Appropriate Body Part With
	*Shoulder for Labral Tear		
	* Wrist for TFCC Tear		
* Hip for Labral Tear			

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