CMI
Cooperative Magnetic Imaging

MR CONTRAST: Patient Information and Consent

An MR study was requested by your referring provider. The exam involves placing you on a table which slides into a magnetic field to produce images of your body. Some medical conditions are most accurately diagnosed or ruled out with the use of intravenous contrast material. If needed, we will be giving you an injection of such contrast material during your exam. Based on the information given to us from your referring provider, we often know that you will or will not need contrast before the time of your scan. However, for some types of medical conditions or previous medical history, the need for contrast material is decided only after we obtain some preliminary images once we have started your MR study. Therefore, you may not be told that you need an injection of contrast until you are on the scan table, and the scan has been partially completed.

This form is asking your permission to give contrast if indicated. By signing this form, you consent to receive the contrast injection.

- The contrast we use in MR is called gadolinium- it is a material that highlights certain abnormalities in different organs and tissues, making it easier to diagnose even when they are very small abnormalities. In some cases, the MR will be interpreted as incomplete without the use of contrast.
- MR contrast is extremely well tolerated by the vast majority of people. While adverse reactions to injection are always a possibility with any contrast, the vast majority these reactions are minor, temporary and require no medical treatment.
- People who have severe kidney disease, advanced liver disease or are on dialysis who are given a gadolinium-based MR contrast agent (GBCA) may have a small risk of developing a disease called *Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis* (NSF). An alternative lower dose contrast agent, performing the study without contrast or other testing may be considered by the ordering physician. There is currently no reliable cure for NSF, although some reports do exist of partial responses to treatment. The disease may rarely be severe enough to cause death. Symptoms of NSF are as follows:
  - thickening and tightening of the skin (usually the arms or trunk)
  - scarring, including the diaphragm, heart, lungs & muscles
- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requires a warning and other safety measures for all GBCAs for MRI concerning gadolinium remaining in patients' bodies, including the brain, for months to years after receiving these drugs. Gadolinium retention has not been directly linked to adverse health effects in patients with normal kidney function, and they have concluded that the benefit of all approved GBCAs continues to outweigh any potential risks.

Mild "Non-Allergic" Reactions may include nausea/ vomiting, headache or a temporary "funny taste" in the mouth. Mild allergic reactions may include hives or tenderness at the injection site due to irritation of the vein. More Severe Allergic Reactions can include difficulty breathing or shock, or very rarely death. Reactions to contrast usually occur immediately or within an hour of contrast injection. More severe reactions may require immediate medical treatment, including drugs that will counteract the allergic reaction. You may also need a period of observation and assessment before we decide it is safe for you to go home.

If you are pregnant: there are no known adverse effects from MR scanning during pregnancy. Although there is no evidence known to us that MR will harm your unborn baby, we prefer not to give contrast because it enters the baby's circulation. You need to inform CMI personnel if there is a chance you are pregnant. **If you are breastfeeding**, please inform CMI personnel as while the American College of Radiology believes it is safe to continue to breastfeed after receiving contrast, it is unknown to us what extent the contrast is excreted into the breast milk. It is our recommendation to abstain from breastfeeding for 24 hours following administration of contrast, with active expression and discarding of breast milk from both breasts.

***What you should expect if you have the contrast material injection*:** After venipuncture or administration of contrast through a previously placed IV accessible catheter, there may be a sensation of warmth or cold at the injection site. After this sensation, there are usually no other symptoms. Continuous pain or heat at the site can indicate a vein irritation that should be reported to the nurse immediately. If your IV placement becomes altered, leakage of contrast can occur outside the vein which is referred to as an infiltrate. Infiltrates typically cause minor irritation including swelling and tenderness, but rarely can lead to skin ulcerations. If you have any concerns about any of the above information, please ask us as we will be happy to discuss these issues with you.

_____ (please initial) A copy of the Contrast Medication Guide was given to me per FDA guidelines: **Eovist** or **Gadavist**

I _____ have been informed of the above and have had my questions or concerns addressed.
(Printed Patient Name)

By signing I give consent for contrast. _____ _____
(Patient or Authorized Health Care Proxy or qualified person) *Date*

If signed by Proxy or Patient Representative/ Guardian: please print name & relationship _____

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I _____ **refuse** to give consent for contrast, but wish to have my exam performed **without the**
(Printed Patient Name)

Recommended contrast enhanced imaging. _____ _____
(Patient or Authorized Health Care Proxy or qualified person) *Date*

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Below to be completed by CMI:

_____ _____
(CMI Witness Signature) Date

_____ _____
(RN/ or MD giving contrast signature) Date

Reference: American College of Radiology and FDA

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