

Preparing for your exam or procedure

MRI

The exam requires no preparation. However, if you are having an procedure that requires a contrast agent or “dye,” you may be asked to avoid food or fluids for four hours prior to your exam.

Our staff will ask questions to determine if an MRI is safe for you. For example, no pacemakers or implanted cardio-defibrillators are allowed.

Please wear loose and comfortable clothing. Once you arrive, you may be asked to change into more appropriate clothing for your exam, since metal objects (such as snaps, buttons or zippers) may interfere with the quality of your study.

If your exam requires a contrast agent to enhance the appearance of certain tissues or blood vessels in the images, a small needle will be placed in a vein in your arm and a contrast agent will be injected.

In some cases, your doctor may have ordered a “joint MR arthrogram.” In these cases a separate procedure will be performed to inject a contrast agent into that joint.

Please let us know in advance whether you have kidney failure, or whether you are (or may be) pregnant.

CT

Drink plenty of fluids prior to your exam, unless you are told to do otherwise as part of your exam preparation.

Certain CT exams require the use of contrast agents, or “dye,” to enhance the appearance of certain tissues or blood vessels in the images. If you are having an exam that requires a contrast agent, you may be asked to avoid food or fluids for four hours before the test.

We will let you know if you need to follow these additional preparations:

- Abdomen or pelvis CT exams: No solid foods after midnight prior to your exam. Medications may be taken, and clear liquids are allowed.
- Chest, head, or neck CT exams: No solid food for four hours prior to your exam. Medications may be taken and clear liquids, such as water and apple juice, are allowed.

For your exam, please wear loose and comfortable clothing. Once you arrive, you may be asked to change into more appropriate clothing for your exam, since metal objects (such as snaps, buttons or zippers) may interfere with the quality of your study.

For exams of the abdomen and pelvis, you may be asked to drink a liquid contrast agent upon arrival. If your exam requires an intravenous contrast agent, a small needle will be placed in a vein in your arm for the injection.

Please let us know in advance if you have any allergies to iodine contrast, whether you are (or may be) pregnant or if you are diabetic.

PET/CT

Drink plenty of water the day before your exam; try to drink at least 48 ounces. Do not eat or drink anything except water for six hours before your exam. Do not chew gum 24 hours prior to or during your exam. Take your normal medications with water, unless instructed not to do so by your physicians. Refrain from strenuous exercise for 24 hours before your exam.

Prior to your appointment we will call you to review health and insurance information, to provide specific instructions about diet and other exam preparations, and to answer any questions you might have.

For your exam, please wear loose and comfortable clothing, and bring an extra layer to stay warm while you are waiting.

Please do not chew gum 24 hours prior to or during your exam.

Prior to your appointment, please let us know whether you are (or may be) pregnant or are breastfeeding, or are diabetic. You must have a driver to take you home.

ULTRASOUND

Preparation for your ultrasound study will depend upon the type of exam you are having:

- Abdomen, aorta, liver, gallbladder, or pancreas: Do not eat or drink six hours prior to your exam, except for clear liquids such as water. Medications may be taken with water.
- Pelvis or kidneys: Drink two glasses of water one hour prior to your exam. Do not empty your bladder. Arrive with a full bladder.
- Thyroid, scrotum, hernia, blood vessels, or extremities: No preparation is necessary.

Preparation may vary for ultrasound-guided biopsy/aspiration procedures. Please call to verify.

Our Location

We are located at 11011 Meridian Ave, on the northwest corner of Meridian Ave and Northgate Way. Please see the detailed driving directions below, or you can find them at

www.viaradiology.com. Plenty of free, on-site parking is available at our convenient location.

Via Radiology is located on the first floor of the Meridian Pavilion in Suite 101.

From the north:

Exit at Northgate Way/1st Ave NE, Exit 173. Take the Northgate Way westbound ramp and turn right onto Northgate Way. Continue through the first light, which is the intersection of Northgate Way and Meridian Ave. Immediately after the light, turn right into the parking garage for Meridian Pavilion.

From the south:

Take the Northgate Way/1st Ave NE, Exit 173. Turn left onto 1st Ave NE and then left onto Northgate Way. Continue straight through two lights until you reach the intersection of Northgate Way and Meridian Ave. Immediately after the light, turn right into the parking garage for Meridian Pavilion.

From Highway 99/Aurora Ave. N.:

Turn east on Northgate Way (N 105th St) and drive 0.6 miles. Immediately before the intersection of Meridian Ave and Northgate Way, turn left into the parking garage for Meridian Pavilion or make a left onto Meridian Ave, then a quick left into the parking lot.

