Welcome to Barnes-Jewish West County Hospital Radiology. Your physician has scheduled you for an MRI exam in Radiology. MRI is a painless, non-invasive diagnostic exam that produces images of the body by using a powerful magnet, radio frequencies, and an advanced computer. This exam uses no radiation.

SCHEDULING & PRE-REGISTRATION
- MRI appointments are scheduled M-F from 7:30 am to 8:00 pm and Saturdays from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. MRI exams are by appointment only and are scheduled by your referring physician.
- Please confirm with your insurance that your exam has been authorized prior to your arrival.

YOUR ARRIVAL
- Please arrive 15 minutes before your appointment time. Bring a photo ID (driver’s license or state ID), insurance card(s), and a completed MRI Safety Screening Form with you to your appointment. Forms can be found at www.barnesjewishwestcounty.org/radiology.

PRIOR TO YOUR EXAM
- Take your medication as you normally do, unless your referring physician has told you otherwise.
- You do not need to fast for your MRI exam, unless otherwise directed by your referring physician. However, you should only eat something light, do not have a full stomach.
- A technologist will explain the exam and answer any questions. Be prepared to discuss your completed medication record, allergies, and past medical history.
- You will be positioned on a table within a strong magnetic field. Therefore, for everyone's safety you will need to change into a gown and pants and remove all loose metal.
- If you are claustrophobic, ask your referring physician for a prescription to help you relax before your MRI exam. The MRI Department can not administer medications. Do not take the medication until you are in the MRI Department and have spoken to the MRI Charge Technologist.
- Most MRI exams require a contrast to make parts of your body display more clearly. For the majority of MRI exams, this is administered by IV.

LENGTH OF EXAM
Exams typically take at least 45 minutes, but some may take up to 2 hours.

AFTER YOUR EXAM
- All radiology exams are read by a physician known as a Radiologist. The radiologists at Barnes-Jewish West County Hospital are all specialized experts in their field.
- The radiologist will report your MRI results to your referring physician within 24 hours. Your referring physician's office will discuss the results with you.
- If IV or oral contrast was necessary for your MRI, drink extra fluids for the next 48 hours.

QUESTIONS
Visit our website at www.barnesjewishwestcounty.org/radiology or call the Radiology Department at 314-996-8496.