



**Shields offers Breast MRI services  
at sixteen locations  
throughout Massachusetts:**

Boston	New Bedford
Concord	Newburyport
Falmouth	Palmer
Greenfield	Springfield
Hyannis	Westford
Leominster	Weymouth
Lowell	Woburn
Marlborough	Worcester

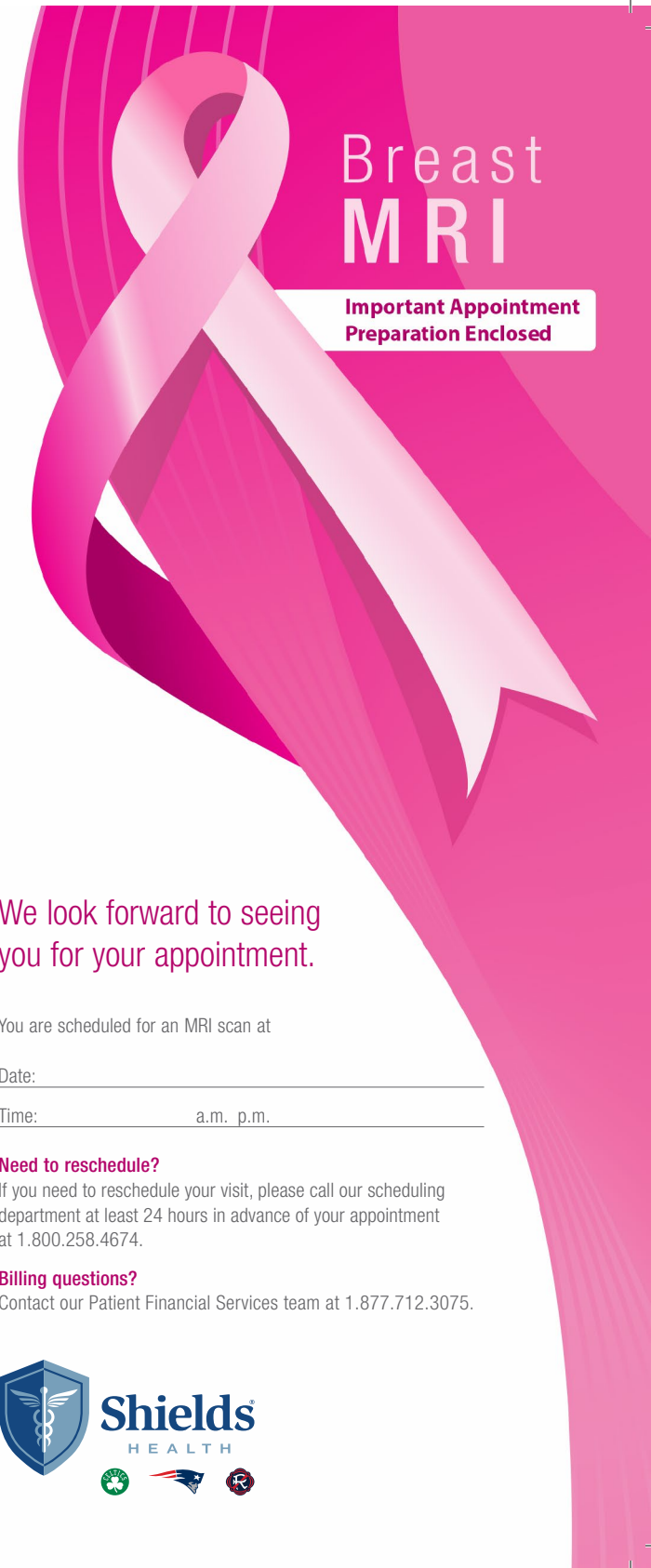
**NEW!**

Watch what happens during  
a **Breast MRI exam.**

Scan the QR code below to watch our animated video  
on what to expect at your breast MRI appointment.



800.258.4674  
[shields.com](http://shields.com)



# Breast MRI

**Important Appointment  
Preparation Enclosed**

We look forward to seeing  
you for your appointment.

You are scheduled for an MRI scan at

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. p.m.

**Need to reschedule?**

If you need to reschedule your visit, please call our scheduling  
department at least 24 hours in advance of your appointment  
at 1.800.258.4674.

**Billing questions?**

Contact our Patient Financial Services team at 1.877.712.3075.



# Breast MRI

## Guidelines & Information

### How often should I get a Breast MRI?

Women at high risk should have a screening MRI along with a mammogram once a year.

### Annual breast screening is recommended for women who:

- Have a mutated BRCA1 or BRCA2 breast cancer gene
- Have a first-degree relative (parent, sibling, child) with a BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation
- Have a lifetime risk of breast cancer that has been scored at 20-25 percent or greater based on one of several accepted risk assessment tools that look at family history and other factors
- Had radiation to the chest between the ages of 10 and 30
- Have Li-Fraumeni syndrome, Cowden syndrome or Bannayan-Fily-Rubalcaba syndrome or may be at risk of having one of these based on a history in a first-degree relative

### How much will my Breast MRI cost?

The price of your Breast MRI will depend on your insurance coverage. Our patient financial services team can provide you with a price estimate in advance of your exam if you provide them with your insurance information. They can be reached Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at 207.795.2237.

### How do I obtain my MRI results?

All MRI images are interpreted by a radiologist, a doctor who specializes in reading MRI. Within a few days, your provider will contact you with the results of your study. Your provider is the only person authorized to discuss your results with you.



## Safety & Preparation Information

It's critical that your exam is scheduled between days seven to fourteen of your menstrual cycle to ensure optimal images. Please plan on arriving at least 20 minutes before your scheduled appointment to allow time for insurance paperwork and patient screening with our MRI technologist.

### TO ENSURE YOUR SAFETY AND COMFORT:

- All patients are required to change into a medical gown. Certain invisible microfibers in garments have been reported to cause heat during an MRI scan. Changing into a medical gown minimizes this risk.
- Remove all jewelry, except rings. When possible, leave jewelry and other valuables at home.
- Remove any patch medications or any external mechanical devices, or let us know if you've been instructed not to for medical reasons.
- If you are anxious or concerned about the MRI scan, talk to your provider about medication options before your scan. If you will be medicated, you will need to plan for someone to drive you home.
- If you have implants, please bring your implant card with you.
- Please hydrate and take any prescription medications as normal.
- A dye (contrast agent) may be injected through an intravenous (IV) line in your arm to make the tissues or blood vessels on the MRI pictures easier to see.
- Your body will be in the prone position (you will be lying flat on your stomach) for the duration of the scan.



## Contrast Injection Information

Often, breast MRI is done using a contrast material called gadolinium, which is injected into the arm through an IV during the exam. The contrast agent is a very safe substance that will move into the bloodstream and highlight the blood flow to any abnormal tissues, identifying breast abnormalities, the difference between benign (noncancerous) and malignant (cancerous) lumps, the size and location of a suspicious lump and enlarged lymph nodes in the chest and underarm area.

An IV will be inserted into your hand or arm by an MRI technologist, and it will be used to inject the gadolinium. This will be injected into the IV partway through the exam. You will be in constant communication with your technologist throughout the entire exam.

## Device, Implants & Conditions Information

While MRI is extremely safe, because of the magnetic strength of the machine, certain patients with metal in their body or have implants cannot be scanned. If you have a device, implant or condition listed below, please contact us because it may interfere with your MRI.

- Have a mutated BRCA1 or BRCA2 breast cancer gene
- Have a cardiac pacemaker
- Have a prosthetic heart valve
- Have a surgical clip, bone or joint replacement, or any metallic implant
- Have any external medical devices
- Have suffered a shrapnel wound
- Have any metallic chips or splinters in the eye
- Are pregnant, or think you might be
- Weigh more than 300 pounds
- Suffer from claustrophobia